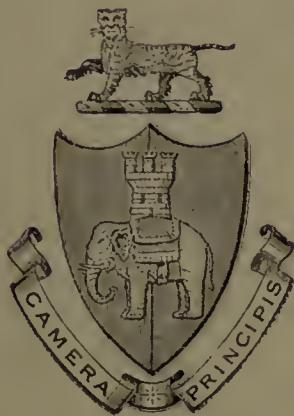




CITY OF COVENTRY.



The Health of the City in 1937

Annual Report

. . . BY . . .

A. MASSEY, M.D., D.P.H., D.P.A.

*Medical Officer of Health,
General Superintendent Corporation Hospitals,
School Medical Officer.*

Coventry:

CURTIS & BRAMISH, LTD., Printers, Charterhouse Works, Northfield Road.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE (AND MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE).

Chairman : MR. COUNCILLOR J. C. LEE GORDON. (a) (b)

Vice-Chairman : MRS. ALDERMAN E. HUGHES. (a) (b)

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THE DEPUTY-MAYOR (MR. ALDERMAN S. STRINGER).

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(b) Housing Sub-Committee.

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MR. COUNCILLOR J. C. LEE GORDON

(Chairman of the Joint Committee).

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MR. ALDERMAN G. E. HODGKINSON.

MRS. ALDERMAN E. HUGHES.

MR. ALDERMAN T. A. B. SODEN.

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MR. COUNCILLOR J. LATHAM.

MR. COUNCILLOR T. J. PRENTICE.

MR. COUNCILLOR A. TURNER.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health -	A. MASSEY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.P.A.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health - - -	A. ASHWORTH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. (appt. 1/9/37).
Assistant Medical Officer of Health - - -	J. FIELDING, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health - - -	MARGARET J. MOIR, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare - - -	WINIFRED A. KANE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (appt. 1/8/37).

Gulson Road Municipal Hospital—

Medical Superintendent -	J. STUART SMITH, M.A., B.Sc., M.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Resident Medical Officers - - -	L. H. MATTISON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. A. M. HOWARD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. J. SPEARS, M.B., Ch.B.
Visiting Surgeon - - -	S. A. BALLANTYNE, M.B., F.R.C.S. (Edin.) (part time).
Visiting Surgeon (Ear, Nose and Throat) - - -	D. A. P. MACALISTER, F.R.C.S. (Edin.) (part time).
Visiting Dental Surgeon -	C. HARRIS, L.D.S. (part time).
Matron - - -	MISS M. DONAGH (appt. 1/10/37).

City Isolation Hospital—

Resident Medical Officer -	J. F. GALPINE, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (appt. 18/10/37).
Matron - - -	MISS N. GREENWOOD.

Tuberculosis—

Tuberculosis Officer - - -	J. MCG. WILLIAMS, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Assist. Tuberculosis Officers -	R. J. CYRIAX, M.D., D.P.H. R. N. WALKER, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Superintendent -	C. BUDGE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(Memorial Sanatorium)	
Assistant Medical Officers -	H. L. R. SARGANT, M.B., Ch.B. KATHLEEN J. WARK, M.D., L.M.C.C. A. S. MOODIE, M.B., Ch.B.
(Memorial Sanatorium)	

Venereal Diseases Clinic—

Medical Officers - - -	J. F. GALPINE, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (appt. 18/10/37). A. T. HAWLEY, M.A., M.B., F.R.C.S. (Edin.) (part time).
------------------------	---

Public Analysts - - -	W. T. RIGBY, F.I.C. (part time). F. G. D. CHALMERS, M.A., B.Sc., F.I.C. (part time).
Veterinary Inspector - - -	W. DALE, M.R.C.V.S. (part time).
Chief Sanitary Inspector -	W. R. MARTIN. * ||
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector - - -	W. BEAUMONT. * ||
Housing Inspector - - -	A. C. SAWORD. x ||
Meat Inspector - - -	N. T. SIDDELL. x ||
Assistant Meat Inspector -	C. ASH (appt. 7/2/38). r ||

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF—*continued.*

Sanitary Inspectors -	-	R. H. HAYNE. x ||
MISS P. CHURCHILL. *		R. A. WILLIAMS. x ||
H. ELLIS. x		E. AVISON. x ||
E. JOHNSON. x ||		M. M. BRAIDE. x ||
H. LENTON. x ||		D. C. NORCLIFFE. x
E. C. BOND.*		(appt. 11/4/38).
T. E. WILMOTT. * ||		
W. T. G. SCOTT (Probationer).		
Superintendent Health Visitor	-	MISS L. CURETON. § ¶ *
Deputy Supt. Health Visitor -	-	MISS R. WARD. § ¶ * f
Health Visitors -	-	MISS H. HAMPTON. ¶ \$ c
MISS A. G. PUDGE. † \$		MISS E. M. OWEN. ¶ \$ c
MISS E. R. SAUL. * § a		MISS G. E. SAUL, † §
MISS A. J. RINGROSE ¶ \$ f		(B.A.Lond.).
MISS D. WOODCOCK. ¶ \$ c		MISS E. BOULTON. §
MISS E. DICKENSON. ¶ \$ f		MISS M. RATCLIFFE. ¶ \$
(appt. 2/5/38).		MISS D. JONES. ¶ \$ +
MRS. F. A. GEORGE. ¶ \$		(appt. 20/4/38).
MISS G. O. MASKELL. ¶ \$ c		
Municipal Midwives (appt. 31/7/37)		
NURSE A. ALLEN.		NURSE N. KIRK.
NURSE V. ATKIN.		NURSE A. MASON.
NURSE V. BATE.		NURSE A. RAYNOR.
NURSE E. BENSON.		NURSE M. ROUSE.
NURSE S. BURNS.		NURSE V. SIMPKINS.
NURSE J. DUCKETT.		NURSE D. STANLEY.
NURSE I. M. DUDLEY.		NURSE M. SPRAYSON.
NURSE D. HERITAGE.		NURSE E. THOMAS.
NURSE D. HUMPHRIS.		NURSE K. WAGSTAFF.
NURSE A. HUBBARD.		NURSE E. WRIGHT.
NURSE M. JONES.		
District Medical Officers (part time)		
Public Vaccinators (part time) -	-	4
Chief Clerk -	-	2
Vaccination Officer -	-	J. H. GRANT. †
Clerks		T. LORD.
M. R. C. COURTOIS.		MISS A. L. EDWARDS.
J. H. BOYES. v		MISS W. EDWARDS.
E. WOOD.		MISS J. GORDON (appt. 18/10/37).
F. ELLIS.		MISS A. BUCKLER.
W. STUDHOLME (appt. 26/7/37)		H. S. WHITTEN (appt. 7/3/38).
MISS W. M. BROWN.		MISS B. CAVE (appt. 16/5/38).
MISS F. HOLLY.		D. A. R. COLLIER (appt. 16/5/38).
MISS D. FREARSON.		
Gulson Road Municipal Hospital—		
Nursing Staff 86.		Other 62.
City and Pinley Hospitals—		
Nursing Staff 23.		Other 46.
* Inspector's Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.		
† Inspector's Certificate of Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board.		
¶ Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspecting Meat and other foods.		
x Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Examination Board.		
† Health Visitor's Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.		
§ Certificate of Central Midwives Board.		
¶ Three years general trained nurse.		
a Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Maternity and Child Welfare Workers.		
c New certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Health Visitors under Memo 101/M.C.W.		
f State registered fever trained nurse.		

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General Statistics.

Area in acres	19,137
Population (Census, 1931)	178,136
Population (estimate for mid. year 1937)	206,500
Density of population (1931) per acre	9·5
Number of inhabited dwellings (1931) 42,190 (Dec., 1937) 57,888	
Average number of persons to each occupied house (mid. year)	3·8
Rateable Value of City (Dec., 1937) ...	£1,450,103
Sum represented by a penny rate (Dec., 1937) ...	£5,440

Live Births— Males. Females. Total.

(Legitimate)	1666	1490	3156
(Illegitimate)	47	51	98
	—	—	—
	1713	1541	3254

= Birth rate of 15·7 per 1000 people

Stillbirths ... 77 64 141 = Rate of 43·3 per 1000 live births.

Deaths ... 1134 1022 2156 = Death rate of 10·4 per 1000 people.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes—

Puerperal Sepsis ... 1	= 0·3 per 1000 births
Other Puerperal Causes 9	= 2·7 , ,

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

(a) All infants per 1,000 live births	48·5
(b) Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	48·4
(c) Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	51·0

Deaths from Measles (all ages) 5

„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages) 6

„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... 20

Marriage Rate 20·3

Death Rate from Principal Infectious Diseases ... 0·18

Respiratory Death Rate 1·44

Phthisis „ „ 0·59

Death Rate from other forms of Tuberculosis ... 0·16

Death Rate from Cancer... 1·28

CITY OF COVENTRY

Annual Health Report, 1937

BY THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

To the Right Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen
and Councillors of the City of Coventry.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my ninth Annual Report on the state of the public health in Coventry. The Report appertains to the year 1937 and is the sixty-third of the series.

The City death-rate for the year under review was 10.4 per thousand of the population as compared with 12.4 for England and Wales and 12.5 for the great towns as a whole. The local birth-rate was 15.7 per thousand population as against an average of 14.2 for the past ten years and as compared with a national rate in 1937 of 14.9. The 1937 birth-rate in Coventry is the highest for many years.

The 1937 infant mortality-rate in Coventry was 48.5 per thousand births as compared with a corresponding figure of 58 for the country as a whole and a figure of 62 for the great towns collectively. The local figure may thus be regarded as extremely favourable.

It appears that there has again been a large increase in the local population during the year, due in the main to continued immigration to the City consequent upon further industrial expansion. The departmental estimate of mid-1937 population was 206,300, whereas the estimate for 1938 is 219,900. There is patent difficulty in computing the local population year by year during a long inter-Censal period.

The rapid growth of the City is reflected in the increasing demands upon the local health services. This is illustrated typically in connection with the Municipal General Hospital where the number of cases dealt with in 1937 again showed a marked increase. An early extension of the hospital is necessary and

careful consideration has already been given to a preliminary scheme.

Practical co-operation with the voluntary hospital continues to be a feature of local hospital policy. In this connection, for example, the frequent meetings held during the year between representatives of the Public Health Committee and representatives of the voluntary hospital have permitted the completion of an important scheme whereby a Joint Laboratory will be inaugurated in mid-1938.

The City Isolation Hospital provides ideal facilities for the treatment of fevers. The local incidence of infectious diseases was comparatively low during 1937 and thus at no time during the year were the hospital beds in full commission. This was indeed fortunate in view of the prevailing difficulty in the matter of securing an adequate number of nursing staff.

Towards the close of the year, Allesley Hall and the estate attaching passed to the ownership of the Corporation through the munificence of the Rt. Hon. Lord Iliffe. The Hall itself is to be utilized as a Convalescent Home in connection with the Municipal General Hospital, and cases referred from the maternity and child welfare section will also be admitted there. The Home will be opened in July, 1938.

The new Combined Welfare Centre and School Clinic in Gulson Road was officially opened in April, 1937, and particulars relating to it are included in the main report following. An additional branch welfare centre was opened in the Fletchamstead area during the year.

Pursuant of the Midwives Act, 1936, a domiciliary service of full-time municipal midwives was inaugurated in the City in August, 1937, and the initial working of the scheme has been eminently satisfactory. This service may serve in some measure to restore domiciliary midwifery to greater favour and to set more reasonable limits in the matter of hospitalization for maternity cases.

In connection with the scheme administered by the Warwickshire and Coventry Joint Committee for Tuberculosis, a notable event during the year was the official opening by Sir Arthur S. MacNulty (Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health) of the Extension to the King Edward VII Memorial Sanatorium.

An arrangement was completed during the year whereby all local mental defectives requiring institutional care will be accommodated at the Great Barr Park Colony where 200 additional beds have been provided for the purpose. Arrangements for the bulk transfer of cases were well in hand at the year-end.

In the matter of environmental hygiene, further progress was made during the year in the work of slum clearance and in connection with the reconditioning of working class dwellings. The year 1938 will see the final phase of the current five years' programme of slum clearance, but a subsequent supplementary programme comprising about one thousand further unfit proper-

ties—will need to be carried through before it can be said that all undesirable areas have been cleared from the City. The speed of this work is governed inevitably by financial considerations and largely by the rate of rehousing operations. The achievements of the past few years have nevertheless been notable, and all good citizens will have remarked with pleasure the disappearance of so many squalid areas which were formerly a reproach.

Reference was made in last year's Report to the Coventry Corporation Act, 1936, which included powers to secure the closure of the ten remaining private slaughterhouses situated in the areas added to the City by the extensions of 1928 and 1932. In this connection, nine of these places were closed during the year under review. The position now is that of 53 former private slaughterhouses, 52 have been closed; the remaining place will be closed down shortly. The widest public health objects of the abattoir scheme are thus being realised.

During the year 1937, the National Fitness Campaign was inaugurated and conducted under Government sanction. Coventry gave full co-operation in this matter and the local activities included a Health Exhibition heralded by a public meeting addressed by the Rt. Hon. Leslie Burgin, M.P. (Minister of Transport), and the Rt. Hon. Lord Addison (a former Minister of Health). Public education in health matters is indispensable, for it is necessary to enlist the fullest co-operation of the public in the measures operated on their behalf.

This preamble is merely intended to invite attention to some of the more important matters which are dealt with in detail in the main report.

It is again a pleasure to acknowledge the courtesy and help extended at all times during the year by the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee and to express thanks to all members of my staff for their loyal and competent service.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ARTHUR MASSEY,
Medical Officer of Health.

The Council House,
Coventry.

May, 1938.

**Social Conditions
Meteorology
Vital Statistics**

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Population. The Departmental estimate of the City population for mid-1936 was 192,360. The Registrar-General's estimate for that year was 194,100. The Departmental estimate for mid-1937 was 206,500. For various reasons it appears that these figures well under-stated the position. The Departmental estimate for 1938 is 219,900. This is obtained by multiplying the known number of occupied houses in the City by a figure of 3.8, which represents the supposed present average number of persons per occupied house. At the last Census in 1931, the average number of persons per occupied house in Coventry was 3.93, and it will thus be seen that a subsequent "thinning out" of population has been allowed for.

It is of interest to consider the possibilities of present population in the light of certain other known figures as, for example, the number of local government electors. In 1931, when the Census population of the (pre-1932 extension) City was 167,046, the number of local government electors was 80,009. In the latest Voting Lists the number of local government electors is given as 106,719. Thus $80,009 : 167,046 = 106,719 : x$ (1938 population) and $x = 222,812$.

Next turning to the figures relating to insured persons in the City, it is ascertained as follows. In the last Census year, 1931, with a population (pre-1932 extension) of 167,046, the insured population was 75,374. At present the insured population numbers 98,013. Thus $75,374 : 167,046 = 98,013 : x$ (present population) and $x = 217,300$.

Recent findings of the Corporation Water Department are also interesting. Taking the 1937 population at 206,500, the quantity of water used in the City during the half-year ended 31st March, 1937, worked out at 26.38 gallons per head per day (trade consumption 7.08; domestic consumption 19.3). Based on the same population, the consumption of water for the half-year ended 30th September 1937 was 28.42 gallons per head per day (trade consumption 7.79; domestic consumption 20.63). It is thought that the increased consumption during the latter half-year was in fact due in the main to increased population and not to increased consumption per head of pre-existing population. Thus $19.3 : 206,500 = 20.63 : x$ (population), and $x = 220,700$.

Although all these calculations are purely theoretical, they nevertheless appear to indicate a present City population of around 220,000. The rapid increase of recent years is due principally to large-scale immigration consequent upon the attractions and labour needs of industrial expansion.

Industries. Coventry is a major centre of the motor-car, aircraft, machine-tool and electrical industries. Among other important local industries are rayon and textiles. The outstanding feature during 1937 has been the inauguration of several new aircraft factories in the City area.

It is clear that, in a large industrial city, the standard of factory hygiene is a factor of considerable importance in determining the state of the public health. In this connection, a pioneer scheme of liaison between the Public Health Department and factory welfare activities is in useful operation. Fuller reference to the scheme has been made in previous reports.

Unemployment Figures.

CLASS.	No. of Unemployed at the dates shown.						
	Dec., 1937	Dec., 1936	Dec., 1935	Dec., 1934	Dec., 1933	Dec., 1932	Dec., 1931
Male Adults	*2,855	3,175	3,700	4,504	4,211	7,288	9,885
Male Juveniles	11	25	52	22	13	42	66
Female Adults	*794	500	800	727	920	1,373	1,938
Female Juveniles	14	23	89	25	42	66	109

* In these two classes 1,081 temporarily suspended workers are included.

METEOROLOGY, Etc.

The observations for the year at the meteorological station at the City Hospital, Whitley, are set out in the accompanying table. Coventry shared in the comparative deficiency of sunshine which characterised the weather conditions of this country during 1937.

Atmospheric Pollution. Three deposit gauges and one automatic filter are in routine use in the City. The deposit gauges are sited respectively at the City Hospital (Whitley), Greyfriars Green and Edgewick; the automatic filter is installed at the Council House. In the table herewith are shown the amounts and types of atmospheric impurities deposited in the City during the year under review.

It is evident that in any industrial town some degree of atmospheric pollution from factories and works is unfortunately inevitable. This can be checked up to a point—but only to a point—by the adoption of special measures by the firms concerned often consequent upon representation by the Public Health Department. Under the Factory Legislation—for example Section 47 of the Factories Act, 1937—it is the intention that fumes and dust shall be removed as far as possible from the factory to the exterior. This is necessary on behalf of the health

of the workers in the factory, but it nevertheless may cause difficulty outside. Although the incompatibility between the clearing of fumes and dust from within the factory and the prescription of limits to their emission outside it is by no means complete, it is evident that an all-round solution is difficult to evolve. The long-term solution to the problem of external nuisance from industrial smell, dust and fumes (and from excessive noise) is to be found only in the sphere of town planning with the careful demarcation of industrial zones and the separation of the latter from territory used or intended to be used for housing purposes.

Domestic smoke makes a not inconsiderable contribution in the matter of atmospheric pollution. To combat this the available measures are evident, namely, the extended use of gas and electricity for domestic heating or the wider use of smokeless fuels for open fires in the home.

The cistern of the barometer is situated 326 feet above sea level.

Baro- meter Ins.	Mean of Air Pressure at 32° F., & Sea Level.	Air Temperature.		Mean of Observa- tions at 9 a.m.		Hygrometer.		Cloud.		Rain and other Forms of Precipitation.		Weather. No. of Days of each month.		Wind Direction N.W. S.W. E. N.E. N. S.		Wind Force (0-12.)		Wind Direction N.W. S.W. E. N.E. N. S.		Wind Force (0-12.)		Wind Direction N.W. S.W. E. N.E. N. S.		Wind Force (0-12.)																		
		A	B	Absolute Minimum and Maximum	Difference from Mean of B.	Max. Min.	Min. Max.	Day of Month.	Dry Bulb Humidity.	Vapour Pressure Bulb. of Wet Bulb.	Total Possibl. Daily Learn.	Mean of Days of Observations at 9 a.m. (Scale 0-10).	Number of Days Total Fall.	Per centage of Average of Days of Fall.	Amount in a Day.	Most in a Day.	No. of Days of Cloudy Sky.	Thunderstorm.	Fog.	Gale.	Strong Winds and Gale.	Clouds or Fog.	Ground Frost.	Days of Observation.	Clouds or Fog.																	
1937																																										
JAN.	29.781	46.2	34.2	40.2	+0.9	26	30	54	6.22	39.5	0.9	7.8	92	41.5	46.0	17	142	8	20	76	146	10	18	2	0	0	4	21	0	13	0	11	20	1	1	6	210	2	9	0		
FEB.	29.569	47.3	35.5	41.4	+1.9	26	12	57	19	40.5	1.2	7.8	89	41.3	43.8	21	2.03	8	23	84	187	17	7	3	0	0	1	19	0	15	0	14	14	2	1	1	3	5	4	7	5	
MAR.	29.673	44.5	31.5	38.0	-4.3	23	16	56	17	37.6	2.1	6.1	79	40.0	42.7	22	2.62	7	18	67	143	10	10	7	3	0	1	19	2	20	0	14	17	3	8	5	2	4	1	5	3	
APR.	29.835	55.5	41.6	48.5	+2.0	27	1	61	7.22	47.7	2.0	9.6	85	47.9	46.3	26	3.40	8	16	89	207	19	2	0	0	0	1	17	1	5	0	13	17	4	6	6	0	4	4	2	4	
MAY	30.018	62.4	44.6	53.5	0.0	34	1,6	78	29	53.8	2.7	11.8	83	54.7	51.8	33	5.21	8	16	70	137	13	11	0	0	1	2	17	0	2	0	10	21	1	6	4	3	5	5	4	3	
JUNE	30.041	66.2	47.8	57.0	-1.1	39	19	80	11	59.2	4.7	12.8	74	61.1	57.8	26	4.34	7	9	37	69	15	11	0	0	3	1	14	0	0	0	7	23	2	2	3	1	2	6	4	10	
JULY	30.006	68.9	53.5	61.2	-0.3	45	5,811	82	3,14	61.8	3.9	14.8	78	62.9	60.0	21	3.44	8	13	53	89	23	15	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	14	17	2	1	4	1	5	6	7		
AUG.	30.080	73.9	51.8	62.3	+1.5	43	16	84	6	62.1	3.3	15.6	82	64.3	61.9	41	5.93	5	6	89	62	12	12	0	0	3	6	9	0	0	0	6	25	7	6	5	1	0	3	7	2	
SEPT.	29.932	66.0	46.5	55.7	-0.8	37	21	78	7	56.1	2.7	12.9	83	58.7	59.9	39	4.97	6	12	50	108	21	13	0	0	3	8	0	1	0	12	18	5	2	2	3	7	6	3			
OCT.	29.997	56.6	43.3	49.9	0.0	31	10,18	68	1	49.4	1.4	10.9	90	53.0	55.8	17	1.81	8	11	56	78	15	27	0	0	0	21	6	3	0	14	17	3	7	3	4	2	5	3			
NOV.	30.059	46.9	34.6	40.7	-2.0	19	14	65	3	39.9	0.8	8.2	93	44.9	50.1	20	1.75	8	9	35	60	11	8	0	0	4	19	6	14	0	7	23	2	3	10	2	0	3	5	5	5	
DEC.	29.890	41.6	31.8	36.7	-3.4	22	18	54	24	36.1	0.9	6.8	90	39.8	44.8	10	0.75	8	18	53	80	15	4	3	0	0	1	23	4	19	0	10	21	8	3	3	2	4	4	4		
Year.	29.907	56.2	41.4	48.8	-0.5	19	Nov.	84	Aug.	6	48.6	2.2	10.4	85	50.8	51.6	25	8.14	7	171	708	107	23	July	15	3	7	24	205	19	92	0	132	233	40	46	52	23	47	44	64	49

RAINFALL.

TOTAL RAINFALL RECORDED IN INCHES FROM 1883-1937, INCLUSIVE.

Year	Rainfall in inches								
1883	31.41	1895	23.99	1907	27.57	1919	30.04	1931	26.91
1884	24.80	1896	25.205	1908	23.100	1920	27.61	1932	29.03
1885	29.71	1897	26.79	1909	26.65	1921	17.44	1933	21.77
1886	29.33	1898	19.865	1910	29.57	1922	29.73	1934	20.95
1887	21.62	1899	25.705	1911	21.37	1923	27.49	1935	29.74
1888	25.29	1900	28.88	1912	37.02	1924	31.96	1936	27.98
1889	27.15	1901	21.415	1913	26.35	1925	26.43	1937	27.83
1890	22.07	1902	22.535	1914	25.16	1926	27.66		
1891	29.70	1903	32.745	1915	29.19	1927	33.08		
1892	22.94	1904	19.975	1916	28.476	1928	26.92		
1893	19.89	1905	21.315	1917	25.386	1929	25.45		
1894	25.66	1906	26.41	1918	25.248	1930	30.99		

Yearly average over 55 years 26.34.

RECORDS AS TO ATMOSPHERIC DEPOSIT IN THE CITY.—YEAR 1937.

METRIC TONS PER HUNDRED SQUARE KILOMETRES.

Rainfall in m.m.	INSOLUBLE MATTER												SOLUBLE MATTER												INCLUDED IN SOLUBLE MATTER											
	Tar			Carbonaceous other than Tar			Ash			Loss on Ignition			Ash			Solids			Sulphates (S 0.3)			Chlorine (Cl.)			Ammonia											
	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3						
Station No.	1	2	3	85	70	73	262	193	347	109	128	167	177	206	200	461	602	799	94	110	107	31	25	37	1	1	1	1	1	1						
January ..	78	79	83	89	56	90	283	242	323	97	112	100	209	96	184	492	514	711	74	64	84	32	22	33	3	3	3	3	3	3						
February ..	80	80	83	11	8	14	2203*	210	370	201	160	111	375	148	174	3913*	587	769	95	81	78	40	37	44	1	3	3	3	3	3						
March ..	67	67	62	1123*	64	99	512	297	292	171	76	71	220	246	214	1034	720	685	115	92	77	24	18	20	3	3	3	3	3	3						
April ..	85	95	90	16	8	12	118	60	58	71	125	58	210	155	138	739	519	459	81	76	74	19	18	22	3	3	3	3	3	3						
May ..	74	78	76	97	6	7	328	254	252	102	89	86	196	134	138	732	583	558	70	63	59	21	16	19	3	3	3	3	3	3						
June ..	34	40	33	97	100	74	259	131	548	75	74	81	172	134	172	600	403	1023	70	47	81	17	18	23	—	1	1	1	1	1						
July ..	54	61	58	87	60	210	351	87	137	117	100	84	227	142	182	852	414	478	73	79	121	16	9	18	1	3	1	1	1	1						
August ..	33	43	38	149	8	4	7	78	49	53	206	133	54	105	131	71	178	133	144	578	453	436	75	64	56	23	22	22	3	3	1	1				
September ..	53	55	33	11	7	14	280	258	348	107	137	134	303	203	228	809	652	862	70	53	70	24	21	26	1	3	3	3	3	3						
October ..	60	57	60	103	33	110	290	179	323	82	108	81	179	131	141	684	473	659	86	66	71	20	20	30	3	3	5	3	3	5						
November ..	41	39	37	9	9	18	273	189	375	105	121	118	277	180	216	761	553	856	79	56	69	21	18	27	3	3	4	3	3	4						
December ..	57	56	51	93	50	121	1342	1361	1163	2723	1908	2131	11605*	6473	8295	982	851	947	288	244	321	26	32	29	—	—	—	—	—	—						
Year	716	750	704	130	97	187	2211*	762	1148	1342	1361	3565	11605*	6473	8295	982	851	947	288	244	321	26	32	29	—	—	—	—	—	—						

* Records not comparable and results spoilt by unobserved mischievous addition of a quantity of extraneous dirt.

Station No. 1—GREYFRIARS GREEN—*11605 metric tons per 100 square kilos. = 290.125 tons per square mile.

" , 2—CITY HOSPITAL— 6473 metric tons per 100 square kilos. = 161.825 tons per square mile.

" , 3—EDGWICK— 8295 metric tons per 100 square kilos. = 207.375 tons per square mile.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births. There were 3,306 births registered during the year, of which 116 were transferred out, while 64 occurring elsewhere were transferred in, giving a net figure of 3,254. The local birth-rate was 15.7, as compared with 15.1 for the previous year and with 14.2 as the average for the last decennium. There were 98 illegitimate births registered, or 3.01 per cent. of the total. The increasing birth-rate in the City is not unconnected with the favourable economic circumstances that obtain locally at the present time.

Marriages. There were 2,101 marriages in the City during the year. Based on the mid-1937 estimated population, this gives a marriage rate of 20.3 as compared with 20.9 for the previous year, and 17.2 as the average for the past ten years.

COMPARATIVE BIRTH AND MARRIAGE RATES.

		1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928
Coventry	Birth Rate ...	15.7	15.1	14.4	13.6	13.4	13.5	14.8	14.5	14.2	14.4
	Marriage Rate	20.3	20.9	19.9	18.9	16.8	14.8	15.0	16.1	17.2	16.5
England and Wales	Birth Rate ...	14.9	14.8	14.7	14.8	14.4	15.3	15.8	16.3	16.3	16.7
	Marriage Rate	17.4	17.3	17.1	16.9	15.7	15.3	15.6	15.8	15.8	15.3

Deaths. The net number of deaths in the City during the year was 2,156. The recorded City death-rate was 10.4 per 1,000 population, as compared with 10.1 for the previous year and with 10.0 as the average for the past ten years.

The chart facing page 21 shows the proportions of local deaths from the various principal causes. The average age at death of those who died during the year was 54.6, as compared with 53.8 for the previous year.

Infant Mortality. During the year under review, there were 158 local deaths of infants under one year of age, giving an infant mortality rate of 48.5 per 1,000 births, as compared with 51.8 in the previous year and with 60.6 as the average for the past ten years.

COMPARATIVE DEATH RATES AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES.

		1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928
Coventry	Death Rate ...	10.4	10.1	9.7	10.0	9.9	9.4	10.0	10.1	11.5	9.6
	Infant Mortality Rate... ...	48.5	51.8	46.5	57.1	64.5	69.7	57.7	57.0	73.1	65.7
England and Wales	Death Rate ...	12.4	12.1	11.7	11.8	12.3	12.0	12.3	11.4	13.4	11.7
	Infant Mortality Rate... ...	58	59	57	59	64	65	66	60	74	65

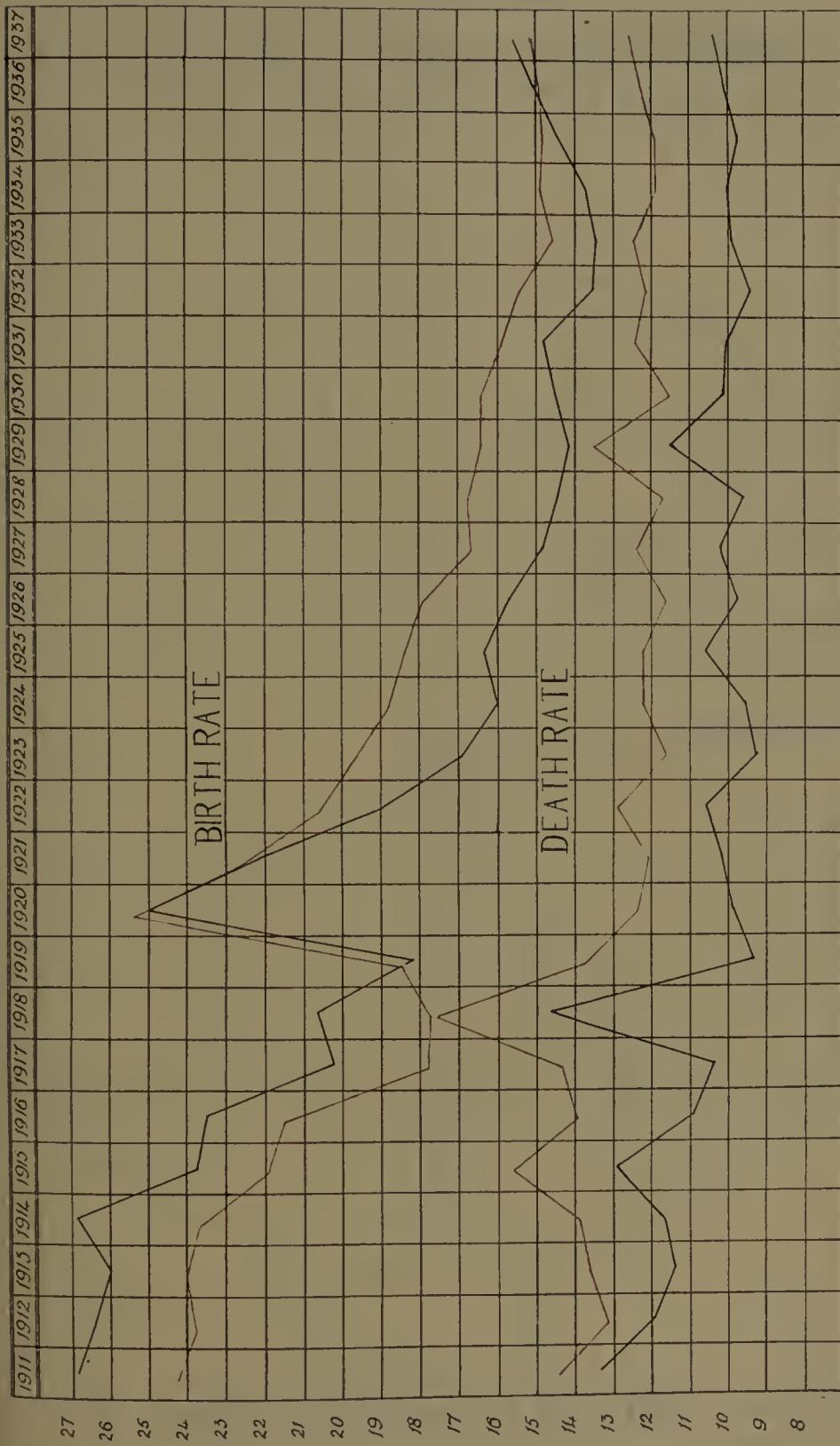
TABLE I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF CITY DURING 1937 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE CITY.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS. ¹		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE CITY.		At all Ages.		
		Uncorrected Number.	Nett. Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	of Non-residents not registered in the City.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Net Births	Number.	Rate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1931	168,900	2580	2493	14·8	1722	10·2	115	82	144	57·7	1689	10·0
1932	182,000	2507	2468	13·5	1727	9·5	100	92	172	69·7	1719	9·4
1933	184,500	2526	2480	13·4	1844	9·9	103	95	160	64·5	1837	9·9
1934	184,900	2585	2521	13·6	1865	10·0	125	116	144	57·1	1856	10·0
1935	190,000	2843	2750	14·4	1852	9·7	120	112	128	46·5	1844	9·7
1936	192,360	3009	2912	15·1	1960	10·1	100	101	151	51·8	1961	10·1
1937	206,500	3306	3254	15·7	2154	10·4	126	128	158	48·5	2156	10·4

TABLE III.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING YEAR 1937.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the City.										Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the City.			Deaths in C. & W.H.			Deaths in G.R.M.H.			Non-Residents only
		All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	7 15 and under 25.	8 25 and under 45.	9 45 and under 65.	10 65 and upwards.											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	12	13	14	15			
All causes	Certified	2146	154	29	26	47	91	265	626	908	1028	267	485	168	108						
	Uncertified	10	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	
2. Measles	5	..	1	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	
3. Scarlet Fever	
4. Whooping Cough	6	2	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
5. Diphtheria	7	..	..	3	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	6	1	
6. Influenza	75	1	..	..	2	1	6	36	29	14	1	6	7	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Cerebro-spinal Fever	19	3	..	1	2	3	9	1	..	22	3	6	9	4	..	..	..	..	..
9. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	122	..	..	1	..	27	61	28	5	40	..	38	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
10. Other Tuberculous Diseases	33	1	4	3	9	7	6	2	1	24	13	6	1	4	..	..	..	1	4	
11. Syphilis	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	6	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
12. General Paralysis of Insane, and Tabes Dorsalis	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Cancer, malignant disease	264	..	1	1	1	..	24	127	110	104	31	61	7	5	..	..	..	..	..
14. Diabetes	14	..	..	..	..	1	..	6	7	8	3	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	102	1	..	1	1	1	5	31	62	49	7	34	3	5	..	..	..	..	..
16. Heart Disease	495	..	..	..	4	8	20	140	323	226	14	108	95	9	..	..	..	..	..
17. Aneurysm	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	125	..	1	..	..	..	4	87	83	31	5	24	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	
19. Bronchitis	108	5	..	1	..	1	3	22	76	16	3	9	3	1	..	..	..	..	1	
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	..	158	28	8	3	4	6	24	48	37	96	30	51	5	10	..	..	..	..	..
21. Other Respiratory diseases	33	..	1	..	..	..	2	16	14	15	4	7	4	..	..	..	..	..	..
22. Peptic Ulcer	18	..	..	..	..	..	1	11	6	17	13	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	
23. Diarrhoea	20	18	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	2	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
24. Appendicitis	17	..	..	2	1	2	8	4	..	25	15	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
26. Other diseases of Liver, etc.	7	2	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	3	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
27. Other Digestive diseases	..	48	..	1	..	2	2	2	11	16	16	35	21	7	1	..	..	..	..	..
28. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	40	1	..	1	..	2	7	14	15	24	7	12	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
29. Puerperal Sepsis	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
30. Other Puerperal Causes	..	9	..	..	..	..	2	7	..	..	10	2	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
31. Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	..	84	80	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	38	7	22	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
32. Senility	55	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55	7	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
33. Suicide	34	..	..	..	..	..	1	14	14	5	7	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	..
34. Other Violence	89	7	2	2	8	13	14	14	29	92	44	19	2	2	..	..	..	..	..
35. Other defined causes	152	9	5	2	7	12	34	50	33	90	37	34	9	1	..	..	..	..	..
36. Causes ill-defined or unknown	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTALS ..		2156	158	30	26	47	91	265	626	913	1028	267	485	168	10						

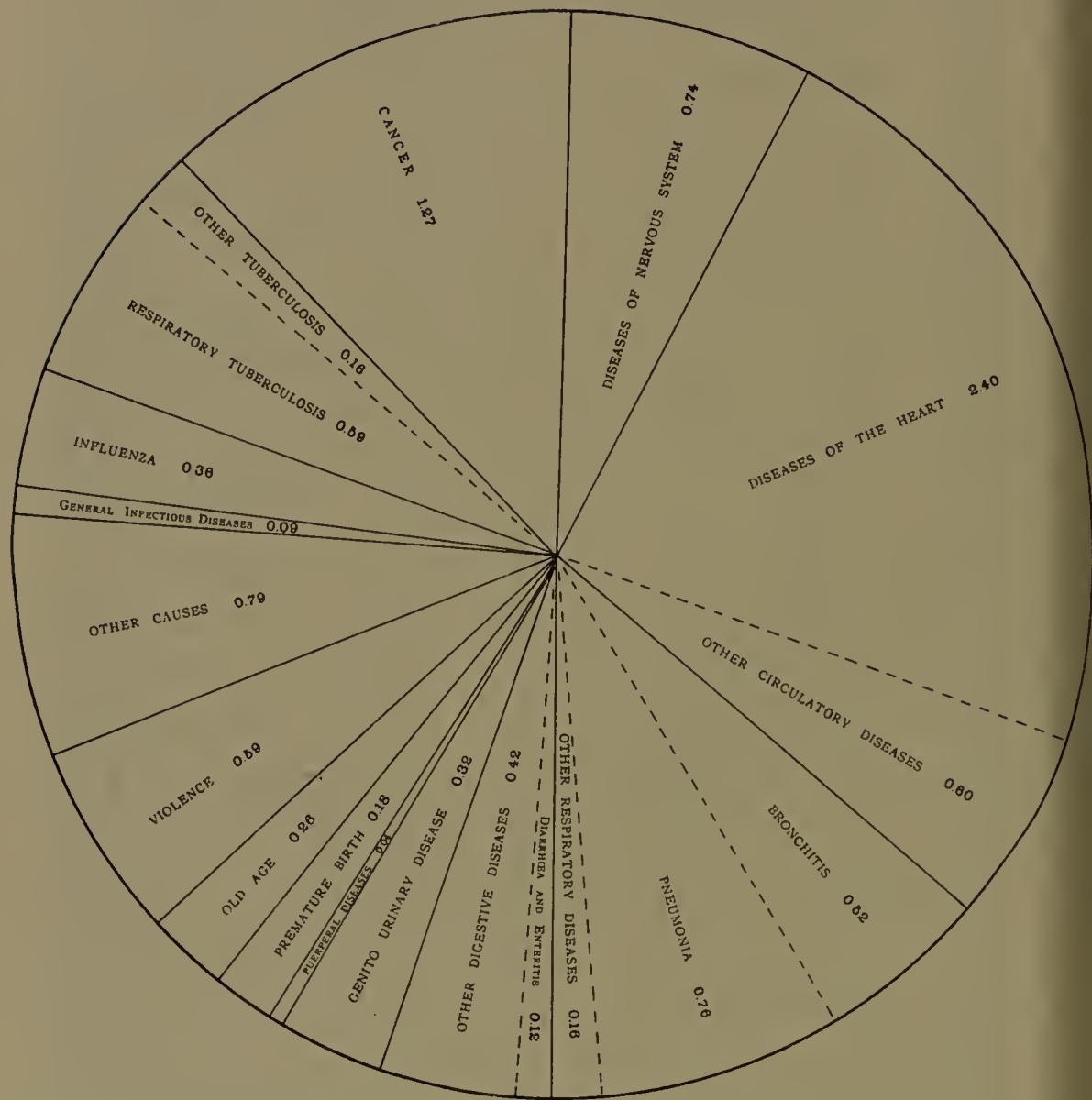
REGISTRATION OF
POPULATION IN COVENTRY.



The Black lines show the rates for Coventry. The Red lines show the rates for England and Wales.

The Black lines show the rates for Coventry.

PROPORTIONS OF DEATHS FROM PRINCIPAL
CAUSES TO TOTAL DEATHS, 1937.



THE TOTAL DEATH RATE FROM ALL CAUSES WAS 10.44.

Comparative Statistics of the Wards.

The table hereunder sets out the principal vital statistics for the year in respect of the sixteen wards in the City.

WARDS.	Estimated population at middle of 1937.	Houses completed 1 Jan., 1937.	Houses completed 1 Jan., 1937.	Houses demolished 1 Jan., 1937.	Houses demolished 1 Jan., 1937.	Estimated No. of Deaths Registred.	Death Rate, 1937.	Birth Rate, 1937.	No. of Deaths under 1 year of age.	Infantile Death Rate.
ALL SAINTS	11,283	152	1	21	171	15·2	131	11·6	7
BABBLAKE	21,788	1,967	693	2	216	9·9	439	20·1	17
CHEYLESMORE	11,736	1,510	30	7	127	10·8	172	14·7	7
EARLSDON	11,295	1,788	57	..	105	9·3	133	11·8	7
FOLESHILL	10,229	265	48	..	87	8·5	117	11·4	5
GREY FRIARS	12,555	1,220	644	40	142	13·9	205	20·0	6
HARNALL	11,383	213	..	1	151	13·3	189	16·6	8
HILL FIELDS	11,274	153	..	..	116	10·3	126	11·2	6
LONGFORD	13,144	1,083	174	14	133	10·1	250	19·0	10
RADFORD	17,357	1,347	1155	126	117	6·7	363	20·9	20
ST. MARY'S	10,155	250	8	39	146	14·4	108	10·6	11
ST. PAUL'S	19,803	393	2	20	120	11·1	134	12·4	6
UPPER STOKE	12,282	332	11	5	113	9·2	134	10·9	6
LOWER STOKE	14,265	946	198	..	150	10·5	175	12·3	10
WESTWOOD	13,447	3,737	451	..	157	11·7	312	23·2	17
WALSGRAVE	13,504	3,781	667	4	105	7·8	318	23·5	15

Infant Mortality during 1937.

Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under One Year, and comparison of such deaths during the last ten years.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Decennial Comparison.									
	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
All Causes.	Certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles
Whooping Cough
Diphtheria
Influenza
Tuberculosis of Nervous System
Tuberculosis of Intestines and Peritoneum
Other Tuberculous Diseases
Syphilis
Meningitis
Convulsions
Bronchitis
Pneumonia
Other Respiratory Diseases
Inflammation of Stomach
Diarrhoea and Enteritis
Hernia : Intestinal Obstruction
Congenital Malformations
Congenital Debility and Sclerema
Icterus
Premature Birth
Injury at Birth
Diseases of Umbilicus
Atelectasis
Suffocation in Bed and not stated
Other Causes
TOTAL, ALL CAUSES										
	30	8	8	1	6	4	57	9	12	7
							85	20	33	11
							158	153	178	138

Vital Statistics.

Year.	Houses Inhabited (December)	Vacant.	Population (Mid-year)	Mortality	Infectious Mortality	Deaths under one year per 100 born.	Birth Rate
1377	..	..	7,000	..	..	..	..
1586	..	..	6,502	..	..	..	..
1643	..	..	9,500	..	..	..	..
1694	..	..	6,711	..	..	..	..
1723	1,934	..	..	..	..	..	..
1748	2,066	..	12,817	..	..	..	..
1801	2,930	..	16,034	..	..	..	..
1811	3,448	*60	17,923	..	..	..	..
1821	3,729	*114	21,448	..	..	..	..
1831	5,444	*421	27,298	..	..	..	..
1841	6,531	*590	31,032	..	..	..	..
Ten Years' Average.							
Census figures.							
1851	7,783	*151	36,812	27	..	..	..
1861	8,991	*1,026	40,936	25	..	..	..
1871	8,535	*816	37,670	22	..	..	..
1881	9,223	*643	42,111	20	3·3	150	35·4
1891	11,496	*284	52,724	18·5	1·7	142	32·0
1901	15,571	353	69,978	16·96	1·9	153·7	29·8
1911	23,515	95	106,349	13·7	1·4	109·3	28·0
1921	28,355	502 [‡]	128,157	11·3	0·7	83·6	23·2
1931	41,275	917 [†]	167,083	10·1	0·2	67·7	15·7
1897	†12,440	73	61,234	16·8	1·8	157	31·3
1911	23,515	95	107,287	13·3	2·08	109·8	26·9
1912	24,590	50	111,166	11·9	1·35	76·1	26·4
1913	25,051	113	115,064	11·4	0·84	91·6	26·0
1914	25,860	99	119,003	11·7	0·70	84·6	26·9
1915	26,667	56	122,982	12·9	1·39	87·8	23·8
1916	27,366	12	127,089	10·9	1·23	87·5	23·5
1917	27,531	15	130,000	10·4	0·47	78·5	20·2
1918	27,735	25	133,000	14·6	0·42	92·5	20·7
1919	27,829	20	136,000	9·3	0·32	82·8	18·2
1920	27,973	48	130,000	9·8	0·35	76·0	25·0
1921	28,355	502 [‡]	128,157	10·2	0·25	79·3	22·1
1922	28,661	72	129,000	10·6	0·34	70·4	18·9
1923	29,414	40	130,500	9·3	0·20	64·9	16·9
1924	29,685	90	132,000	9·6	0·19	79·4	16·0
1925	30,199	83	133,500	10·6	0·30	77·1	16·3
1926	31,034	111	135,000	9·7	0·15	68·9	15·7
1927	32,260	151	139,000	10·2	0·23	63·4	14·8
1928	38,474	175	161,600 [○]	9·6	0·34	65·7	14·4
1929	39,374	750	163,700	12·1	0·63	73·1	14·8
1930	40,519	800	165,800	10·1	0·32	57·0	14·5
1931	41,275	917	168,900	10·0	0·10	57·7	14·8
1932	45,781	1000	182,000 [○]	9·4	0·33	69·7	13·5
1933	47,175	1000	184,500	9·9	0·21	64·5	13·4
1934	48,730	1500	184,900	10·0	0·17	57·1	13·6
1935	50,622	1854	190,000	9·7	0·16	46·5	14·4
1936	54,273	1361	192,360	10·1	0·20	51·8	15·1
1937	57,888	1606	206,500	10·4	0·18	48·5	15·7

* This number includes all business offices, whether in dwelling houses or factories, if not occupied on the night the Census was taken.

† This number omits all business offices, factories, etc.

‡ The Census returns show unoccupied "dwellings"—not houses.

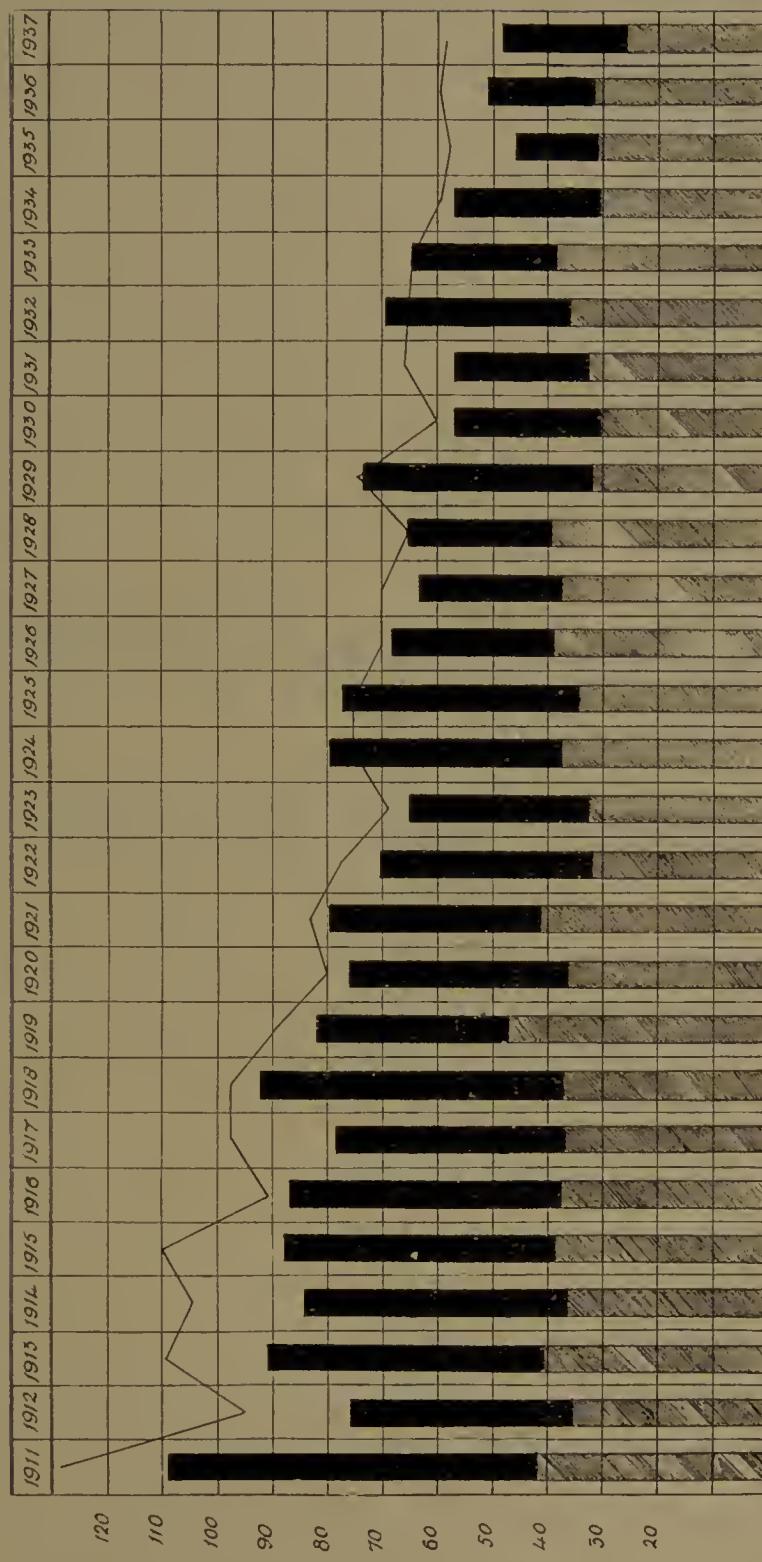
○ In these years an extension of the City Boundaries took place.

1937. VITAL STATISTICS FOR VARIOUS TOWNS.

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

Town	Population	Com-parability Factor	Birth-rate (per 1000 popula-tion)	Crude Death-rate (per 1000 popula-tion)	Death-rate as adjusted by factor	Infant Mortality Rate	Maternal Mortality Rate
Birmingham ..	1,029,700	1·10	16·3	11·7	12·9	60·0	2·96
Bolton ..	170,400	1·09	12·7	14·2	15·4	71·5	4·9
Bournemouth ..	121,000	0·75	11·16	14·57	10·92	45·89	2·85
Bradford ..	289,510	1·00	13·85	14·74	14·74	70·0	2·62
Cardiff ..	220,200	1·06	15·4	12·6	13·3	64·7	3·67
COVENTRY ...	206,500	1·21	15·7	10·44	12·6	48·5	3·06
Leeds ..	491,880	1·07	14·80	13·36	14·30	67·0	2·24
Leicester ..	262,900	1·02	14·48	12·46	12·71	62·52	1·27
Liverpool ..	836,300	1·15	19·3	13·2	15·2	82·0	2·31
Newcastle-on-Tyne	290,400	1·13	16·5	13·3	15·08	91·0	4·21
Nottingham ..	278,800	1·03	15·96	13·44	13·84	80·0	2·82
Portsmouth ..	256,200	0·99	14·88	11·50	11·38	43·81	1·51
Southampton ..	178,700	0·99	15·87	12·4	12·2	48·6	1·76
Sunderland ..	182,900	1·12	19·7	14·0	15·7	85·0	3·45
Swansea ..	161,750	1·12	15·14	12·75	14·28	56·0	4·08
Wolverhampton ..	144,000	1·08	16·9	11·9	12·8	68·0	1·57

CHART SHOWING THE INFANT MORTALITY PER 1000 BIRTHS IN COVENTRY.



The Infant Death Rate per 1000 births for the City is represented by the chimneys, the lined portion of which shows the death rate amongst newly-born babies (*i.e.*, under 1 month old).

The Infant Death Rate for England and Wales is represented by the line.

Infectious and Other Diseases

City and Pinley Hospitals

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Diphtheria. During the year under review, 255 cases were notified in the City as compared with 271 in 1936. There were 7 deaths registered as due to diphtheria, giving a death rate of 0.03 per 1,000 population, as compared with 0.07 for England and Wales. Of the 255 local cases during the year, 234 were admitted to the City Isolation Hospital.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION, 1937.

SCHOOL.	3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10		Totals.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.														
St. Michael's ..	4	..	2	1	2	..	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	11	2	13
Moseley Avenue	2	1	8	6	2	5	1	..	..	..	2	1	..	14	14	28	
Edgwick	8	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	3	11	
Sacred Heart	1	..	2	6	1	3	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	5	11	16	
Windmill Road	1	1	6	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	7	6	13	
Longford	2	1	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	2	5	7	
Whoberley	1	9	11	10	3	6	10	1	2	..	..	..	..	26	27	53	
Hawkesbury	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	
Holbrook Lane	5	4	1	2	3	7	3	1	..	..	..	..	12	14	26	
John Gulson	4	4	1	1	1	1	3	1	..	..	..	..	9	7	16	
Radford	10	12	3	4	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	17	32	
Frederick Bird	4	5	5	5	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	12	23	
Barkers' Butts	8	7	2	6	2	1	2	1	..	..	1	..	14	16	30	
Stoke Heath	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3	
Walsgrave Colliery	3	1	1	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	5	9	
Stoke Council	7	3	2	3	1	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	12	9	21	
St. Mark's	2	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	2	6	
Folly Lane	2	5	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	6	9	
Pridmore Road	2	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	5	7	
Red Lane	2	1	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	3	8	
St. Mary's	4	6	3	3	2	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	9	14	23	
Green Lane	1	2	13	15	2	2	1	2	1	1	..	1	..	18	23	41	
Stoke C.E.	1	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	4	
Wyken	12	9	2	8	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	17	32	
Coundon	1	7	6	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	11	9	20	
Little Heath	2	4	3	3	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	8	15	
St. Elizabeth's	2	3	..	1	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	6	9	
St. John's	1	1	..	2	..	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	3	5	8	
Foxford	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	
Spon Street	1	2	..	..	1	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	3	5	8	
Centaur Road	1	..	7	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	7	15	
St. Osburg's	2	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	5	
Westwood	3	2	2	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	3	10	
All Saints	5	..	..	2	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	5	6	11	
Binley	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	
Willenhall	4	2	3	1	2	1	1	4	..	..	..	..	10	8	18	
Walsgrave C.E.	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	
Allesley	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	2	2	4	
Foleshill C.E.	2	2	4	4	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	7	14	
Whoberley	5	10	..	5	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	17	22	
Paradise	4	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	3	8	
All Souls	3	3	1	6	1	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	9	15	24	
Cheylesmore	8	1	2	3	5	4	1	1	..	..	..	..	16	9	25	
Earlsdon	7	12	4	3	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	18	31	

4 6 8 180 175 67 88 43 61 24 19 2 5 4 2 330 358 688

Diphtheria Immunization. In the schools, 688 young children were immunized. Particulars of this work are given in the accompanying table. In addition there were 35 children immunized by general medical practitioners under the current scheme inaugurated in 1930. Under the scheme, the material for immunization is supplied by the Department to the practitioners concerned—free for necessitous cases and at cost-price for others.

Influenza. The influenza epidemic, which occurred in this country during the 1936-7 winter, made a visitation to Coventry and reached its peak locally in early February, 1937. The incidence had abated by mid-March, 1937. During the latter part of the year under review there was no abnormal incidence of this disease.

Epidemics of influenza and influenzal colds, apart from other unfortunate aspects, occasion severe economic loss to industry and to industrial workers. At one time in early 1937, for example, about 1,000 of the 4,000 employees of one particular firm in the City were absent from work. Any possible means of combating the infection is therefore worth consideration by the managements concerned. In this connection, in at least one large local works the practice of the large-scale routine administration to employees of vitamin concentrate was continued—apparently with a considerable measure of success.

Through the Coventry Engineering Employers' Association the Public Health Department gives advice at the necessary times as to anti-influenza measures possible of adoption in the numerous large works in the City. When the circumstances so indicate, suitable propaganda material is posted in the factories and facilities for gargling and the like are made available by the managements.

Pneumonia. There were 180 cases of acute primary pneumonia and 99 cases of acute influenzal pneumonia notified in the City during 1937, as compared with 161 and 41 respectively in the previous year. The deaths registered in 1937 from all forms of pneumonia totalled 158, as compared with 137 in 1936.

Scarlet Fever. During the year there were 304 cases notified as against 464 in 1936. There were no deaths registered as due to scarlatina. Of the local cases during 1937, 268 were admitted to the City Isolation Hospital.

Typhoid Fever. There were 3 sporadic cases of typhoid fever and 1 of paratyphoid fever notified in the City during the year, and 1 death was registered as due to typhoid.

Measles and Whooping Cough. These diseases are not notifiable locally and figures relating to their incidence are therefore not available. There were 5 deaths from measles and 6 from whooping cough registered in the City during the year. The practice was continued of admitting severe cases and those from unsatisfactory homes to the City Isolation Hospital.

Undulant Fever. One case of this disease—a woman aged 35 years—was ascertained during the year. The onset was in late November, 1937. The case was then admitted to the

Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital where later a diagnosis of undulant fever was made. The bacteriological investigation showed the case to be due to *Brucella Abortus* of Bang. The milk supply to the home concerned consisted partly of raw ungraded milk. The latter was a mixed supply traced to three farms in the Administrative County. An investigation was made, on request, by the County authorities, and it was found that in October, 1937, at one of the farms, a cow (which had calved prematurely) had had a retained placenta and profuse uterine discharge. The cow was said to have been isolated and its milk fed to pigs, but there is a possibility that at some juncture the milk may have been included in the general supply from the farm in question.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis. During the year, there were 41 cases of this disease notified in the City with 19 deaths, as compared with 27 and 10 respectively for the previous year.

CANCER.

Cancer deaths registered in the City during the year numbered 264, as compared with 269 in 1936. Of the former number, 238 occurred in persons over 45 years of age, and 110 of these were over 65 years of age. The local death-rate from cancer during 1937 was 1.28, as against 1.39 in the previous year and a mean of 1.23 for the last decennium. Tables are given herewith setting out the analyses of local cancer deaths according to age and site affected.

In regard to local facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, particulars were stated in the 1936 Annual Report. During the year under review, all possible steps were again taken by the Department to ventilate tactfully to the public the position relating to cancer, notably in regard to the supreme importance of early diagnosis and early treatment.

Cancer Research.

Cancer is a tumour formed by an uncontrolled and purposeless growth of cells. The tumour is at first localised, but later on cells from it travel by the blood or lymph streams and implant themselves in various other parts of the body to form secondary or metastatic growths. Cancer formation is thought to be the result of changes in a cell which was at one time normal. The malignant changes in the cell are associated with a varied cell metabolism and with an increased ability to multiply. Careful research is in progress in this and other countries directed to the end of ascertaining the nature and causes of these malignant cell changes, and in this connection notable progress can be reported. Much work is being done in the fields of histology and biochemistry in the hope of finding the exact characteristics by which cancer cells differ from their normal prototypes. In connection with the treatment of cancer, the researchers are mainly engaged in discovering and trying out various substances or agencies which will or may destroy or inhibit cancer cells. Many chemical compounds are under trial in this connection, while

radium and X-rays are already established as potent therapeutic weapons.

The Future Outlook.

For too long cancer has been a "sword of Damocles" menacing the human race. But the horizon of hope may now be widening a little. Already it can be said that cancer is curable in its earliest stages by means of excisive surgery and the complementary agencies of radium and X-ray therapy. We may soon be able to say more than this provided the finances will allow a full continuation and intensification of authentic cancer research. In this connection, the work of the British Empire Cancer Campaign is indeed noteworthy. This national voluntary organization is concerned with the collection and correlation of all available aetiological and statistical information relating to cancer, and with the financing of accredited research. Financial support to the Campaign is thus a direct contribution in the combat with cancer. With this in mind, the Public Health Department in May, 1937, sponsored a successful financial appeal in Coventry on behalf of the Campaign.

CANCER—DEATHS AT DIFFERENT AGES IN PAST 10 YEARS
AND IN 1937.

	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	Decennial. Total.	Decennial. Mean.	1937
0—1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1—2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
2—5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	0·2	1
5—10	..	1	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	1	6	0·6	..
10—15	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	0·3	1
15—20	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	5	0·5	..
20—25	1	1	3	1	2	1	..	..	..	1	10	1·0	..
25—35	5	4	1	4	2	4	8	1	6	5	40	4·0	6
35—45	10	12	10	23	8	15	20	13	22	20	153	15·3	18
45—55	26	42	41	31	41	29	42	45	41	43	381	38·1	54
55—60	20	36	29	30	30	29	42	30	31	47	324	32·4	32
60—65	24	33	33	37	30	29	42	44	38	39	349	34·9	41
65—75	48	46	70	52	54	65	58	61	72	76	602	60·2	74
75—85	20	18	23	21	20	23	39	24	29	32	249	24·9	28
85 & over	1	3	3	2	2	6	1	2	1	4	25	2·5	8
	156	200	213	201	192	201	254	220	243	269	2149	214·9	264
Death Rate	1·12	1·23	1·29	1·21	1·13	1·10	1·37	1·19	1·28	1·39	—	1·23	1·28

CANCER.—DEATHS ANALYSED ACCORDING TO PARTS AFFECTED.

	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Cancer (total number)...	156	200	213	201	192	201	254	220	243	269	264
Cancer of Buccal Cavity	8	23	13	7	16	15	15	15	9	15	9
Cancer of the Stomach, Liver, etc. ...	39	51	63	59	54						
Cancer of Peritonum, Intestines, Rectum	37	40	45	32	34	102	146	117	111	130	146
Cancer of Female Genital Organs ...	14	24	26	34	18	20	24	19	38	25	25
Cancer of the Breast ...	14	23	25	17	25	16	29	27	30	37	22
Cancer of the Skin ...	..	..	3	3	3	1	1	3	1	3	3
Cancer of other or un- specified organs ...	44	39	41	49	42	45	39	41	52	61	59

SUMMARY OF VACCINATION WORK FOR YEARS 1933-37.

Certificates Received.

Year.	Births Notified.	Deaths Notified.	Successful Primary Certificates of Vaccination.	Exemption Certificates.	Postponement Certificates.	Insusceptible Certificates.	No. of cases notified to Public Vaccinators for Vaccination.	Default Notices.	Q. Notices requesting parents' compliance with the Act.	Visits and Re-visits made.	Per cent. Vacc.
1933	2527	162	476	1750	39	—	601	149	1359	1159	18.84
1934	2607	147	412	1795	45	—	539	123	1358	1042	15.80
1935	2852	139	472	2045	27	4	608	98	1595	734	16.55
1936	3026	161	478	2112	26	2	642	107	1610	935	15.80
1937	3250	161	517	2254	25	1	797	106	1717	829	15.90

Notices Sent Out and Visits Made.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NOTIFICATIONS IN AGE GROUPS.	NOTIFICATIONS IN THE VARIOUS WARDS OF THE CITY.																	
		Under 1	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 & under 25.	25 & under 45.	45 & under 65.	Grey Friars	Harrowall	Hill Fields	Longford	Radford	St. Mary's	St. Paul's	Lower Stoke	Upper Stoke	Westwood	Walsgrave	
Small-pox	
Cholera (C) Plague (P)	
Diphtheria including Mem-branous Croup)	255	234	7	2	54	141	30	25	3	12	17	2	18	12	29	9	32	34	12
Erysipelas	1	3	4	3	11	29	12	2	2	2	3	3	11	6	3
Scarlet fever	4	73	166	40	20	1	12	23	12	22	56	43	8	12	16
Typhus fever
Enteric fever
Relapsing fever (R)
Continued fever (C)
Puerperal fever
Puerperal Pyrexia
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis
Poliomyelitis
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Respiratory Tuberculosis	259	190†	122	..	3	9	92	97	53	5	13	24	9	20	5	18	20	17	21
Other forms of Tuberculosis	..	42	20†	32	..	4	10	17	9	2	2	4	3	1	2	2	6	4	1
Malaria
Dysentery
Acute Primary Pneumonia	180	..	..	..	13	25	21	19	53	40	9	12	22	13	3	6	9	5	10
Acute Influenza Pneumonia	99	..	..	..	2	8	10	4	33	37	5	7	7	8	5	6	3	5	6
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Polio-Encephalitis
Chicken Pox
Totals	..	1317	783	192	45	176	375	226	295	167	33	61	102	71	43	57	61	87	52

† These are cases removed to Sanatoria only.

or Hospitals, Sanatoria, etc.:—City Hospital and Pinley (Small Pox) Hospital, Coventry; Warwickshire King Edward VII. Memorial and other Sanatoria (*v. report*).

Isolation

BACTERIOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total numbers of specimens examined in connection with infectious diseases during the year are as under:—

Disease suspected.	No. of Specimens.	Result Positive.	Result Negative.
Diphtheria	1040	112	928
Phthisis	635	100	535
Cerebro-spinal Fever .. ..	..	..	..
Typhoid Fever	12	4	8
Syphilis	1858	214	1644
Gonorrhœa	2032	256	1776
Other	5	2	3
Totals	5582	688	4894

Arrangements for Laboratory Work.

The existing arrangements under this heading were set out in the 1936 Report (page 36). A scheme for the establishment of a Coventry Joint Laboratory is under final consideration and marked progress was made with these proposals during the year under review. An account of the scheme is included in a subsequent separate section of this Report.

Home Nursing of Infectious Diseases.

This work is undertaken for the Department by the Coventry District Nursing Association, and the following are the figures for 1937 in this connection, viz.:—

Disease.	No. of cases nursed.	No. of visits.
Pneumonia	80	1,407
Measles	4	55
Whooping Cough	1	17
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	25
Erysipelas	1	41
Puerperal Pyrexia	7	126

THE CITY AND PINLEY ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

City Isolation Hospital (148 beds).

During 1937, 769 patients, including 76 remaining in the hospital on January 1st, 1937, were treated at the City Isolation Hospital, as compared with 875 in 1936. There were 67 cases remaining under treatment on January 1st, 1938.

The admissions to the City Hospital were made up as follows :—

City Cases.—Scarlatina, 268; Diphtheria, 259; Cerebro-spinal Fever, 24; Others, 63. Total 614.

Sick Staff: Tonsillitis, 7; Influenza, 2; Rheumatism, 1; Diphtheria, 1; Diphtheria and Scarlatina, 1; Observation, 1; Acute Cholecystitis, 1; Total 14.

Rugby Joint Hospital Board.—Diphtheria, 1; Cerebro-spinal Fever, 1; Total, 2.

Meriden Rural District.—Diphtheria, 13; Cerebro-spinal Fever, 2; Total, 15.

Kenilworth.—Cerebro-spinal Fever, 1.

Bedworth Urban District.—Scarlatina, 12; Diphtheria, 24; Cerebro-spinal Fever, 4. Total, 40.

Atherstone Rural District.—Diphtheria, 3; Cerebro-spinal Fever, 1. Total, 4.

Warwick.—Scarlatina, 1; Other, 1; Total, 2.

Nuneaton.—Cerebro-spinal Fever, 1.

Pinley Smallpox Hospital (18 beds).

It was unnecessary to make any admission to the Pinley Smallpox Hospital during 1937.

CITY ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

DISEASE.	In Hospital Jan. 1st, 1937.		Admitted during 1937.		Total		Recovered		Died		Remaining in Hospital Jan. 1, 1938		
	City Cases.	Outside City Cases.	City Cases.	Outside City Cases.	City Cases.	Outside City Cases.	City Cases.	Outside City Cases.	City Cases.	Outside City Cases.	City Cases.	Outside City Cases.	
Scarlatina	38	2	252	13	290	15	265	15	..	..	25	..
Scarlatina & Broncho-pneumonia .. . . .	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
" Rubella .. . . .	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
" Chicken-pox .. . . .	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
" Diphtheria .. . . .	..	4	..	4	..	4	..	4	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria .. . . .	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..
Tonsillitis .. . . .	..	5	..	5	..	5	..	3	..	..	2	..
Seborrhœal Dermatitis or ? Scarlatina .. . . .	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Toxic Erythema .. . . .	..	2	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
	39	2	268	13	307	15	280	15	..	..	27	..
Diphtheria	16	9	191	35	207	44	178	39	3	..	26	5	
" (Laryngeal) .. . . .	..	4	..	11	3	15	3	10	3	4	..	1
" (Nasal) .. . . .	..	..	..	8	..	8	..	8	..	..	..	..
" (Carriers) .. . . .	..	..	..	23	2	23	2	19	1	..	4	1
" and Chicken-pox .. . . .	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Tonsillitis .. . . .	..	..	..	18	1	18	1	17	1	..	..	1
Vincent's Angina .. . . .	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever .. . . .	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Laryngitis .. . . .	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..
Laryngismus .. . . .	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Terminal Nephritis .. . . .	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
Acute Sinusitis .. . . .	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Retropharyngeal Abscess .. . . .	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
	21	10	259	41	280	51	240	45	8	..	32	6	
Erysipelas .. . . .	..	..	..	8	..	8	..	8	..	..	..	..
Cellulitis of Knee admitted as	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" Erysipelas .. . . .	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .. . . .	..	2	..	23	10	25	10	14	6	10	4	1
Obscure Pyrexia admitted as	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
" Cerebro-Spinal Fever .. . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .. . . .	..	..	..	..	25	1	25	1	24	1	1	..
Mumps .. . . .	..	..	..	..	4	..	4	..	4	..	..	..
Pertussis .. . . .	..	..	..	1	..	8	..	9	..	9	..	..
Rubella .. . . .	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
Varicella .. . . .	..	..	..	..	6	..	6	..	6	..	..	..
Typhoid Fever .. . . .	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
Paratyphoid Fever .. . . .	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	2	..	..	..
Typhoid Carrier .. . . .	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
Gastro-enteritis .. . . .	..	..	Sent in as	..	2	..	2	..	2	..	..	..
Obscure Abdominal Pain .. . . .	..	..	Typhoid	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
Abdominal Tumour .. . . .	..	..	or	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
Influenzal Pneumonia .. . . .	..	..	? Typhoid	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
Myelitis admitted as Anterior Poliomyleitis .. . . .	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
	TOTAL OF PATIENTS ..	63	12	614	65	677	77	597	67	20	4	60	6
Sick Staff	Tonsillitis	7	..	7	..	7
	Influenza	2	..	2	..	2
	Diphtheria	1	..	1	..	2	..	2
	" and Scarlet Fover	1	..	1	..	1
	Rheumatism	1	..	1	..	1
	Aacute Cholecystitis	1	..	1	1	..
	Observation	1	..	1	..	1
	64	12	628	65	692	77	611	67	20	4	61	6	

Scarlatina. There were 281 cases, including 13 from outside the City, admitted during the year as scarlatina or suspected scarlatina, as compared with 418 in 1936. No deaths were recorded. The disease remains mild in the aggregate, although the use of anti-scarlatinal serum mitigated many otherwise sharp attacks. The sulphonilamide group of drugs has continued in use, mostly in the combating of septic complications.

Diphtheria. In 1937, there were 300 cases, including 41 from outside the City, admitted as diphtheria known or suspected, as compared with 289 in 1936. There were 7 deaths during the year, 3 cases succumbing to severe faecal diphtheria and 4 to advanced laryngeal diphtheria. Of those cases admitted or retained purely as carriers, all responded eventually to conservative measures, with the exception of 3 cases on whom tonsillectomy was ultimately necessary.

Measles. There were 26 cases admitted during the year; one of these had whooping cough in addition, and two others were complicated with pneumonia. There was one death.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever. During the year under review, 35 cases were treated, two cases remained in from 1936. This compared with 25 in 1936. Treatment has remained the same, and nothing appears to rival large doses of intravenous, intramuscular and intrathecal serum with thorough lumbar or cisternal drainage, in combination with expert and patient nursing. All degrees of severity from mild to fulminating were encountered. There were 20 recoveries, 14 deaths, and 1 remained in the hospital on January 1st, 1938.

Enteric Fever. One case of typhoid fever, which ultimately succumbed, was admitted in 1937. Two cases of paratyphoid, however, made good recoveries, and 1 typhoid carrier cleared up in hospital. Four other cases admitted as suspected enteric fever gave negative clinical and bacteriological findings.

Erysipelas. Eight cases were treated during the year and all recovered. Sulphonilamide is used as a routine, and though the series mentioned is much too small for statistical significance, clinical impressions are favourable in regard to this form of treatment.

Sick Staff. Seven members of the staff, comprising 5 nurses and 2 maids, experienced acute tonsillitis. One nurse and one maid had mild attacks of influenza. Another nurse had diphtheria and one diphtheria and scarlet fever combined. A case of transient haematuria in a nurse called for observation, while another nurse was the subject of acute cholecystitis. All the above made complete recoveries. A member of the domestic staff developed acute rheumatism and was transferred to the Gulson Road Municipal Hospital where she received successful but prolonged treatment.

Disinfection and Ambulance Stations. The following figures represent the work done under this heading during the year :—

Patients removed to City Hospital—

From within City	...	...	...	606
From outside City	...	...	...	48
Sick rooms disinfected	...	...	...	1,638
Articles disinfected by steam	...	...	...	18,734
Mileage covered by ambulances	...	...	...	15,815
Slum Clearance : Bedding disinfested (lots)	...	...	...	1,248

Hospital Costs.

The maximum number of patients in the City Hospital at any time during the year was 90, and the minimum 54. The average throughout the year was 75.

The current expenses of the City Hospital (including capital charges) during the last financial year ended 31st March, 1937, amounted to £18,430 17s. 7d.; those for the Pinley Smallpox Hospital totalled £252 16s. 3d. During the same period the sum of £2,137 17s. 10d. was received from other Authorities in respect of out-of-City cases treated in the City Hospital.

The current expenses (excluding capital charges) of the two hospitals for the year ended 31st December, 1937, were £13,440 15s. od. and £315 5s. 9d. respectively. The income in respect of the City Hospital was £1,517 8s. 7d. For the City Hospital, the sum above-mentioned for maintenance expenses, divided among the number of patients treated, amounted to £3 8s. 1½d. per head per week.

Municipal General Hospital

Allesley Hall

Domiciliary Medical Services

GULSON ROAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.

Each year since the appropriation of the Hospital on April 1st, 1930, there has been a notable increase in the number of patients admitted. The increase is in respect of acute or short-term cases. The following figures represent the numbers of patients passed through the hospital annually since 1930, viz.:—Year 1930, 1,559; 1931, 2,088; 1932, 2,361; 1933, 2,655; 1934, 2,745; 1935, 2,965; 1936, 3,408; 1937, 3,913.

The expanding demands are partly due to the growth of the City population and partly to an increased popularity of the hospital due to the improved amenities now provided. The position is now such, however, that an early and substantial extension of accommodation is urgently needed. This matter has received careful consideration during the year under review.

The Hospital occupies a site adjacent to the London Road Public Assistance Institution. The latter is shortly to be replaced by a new Public Assistance Institution at Exhall. When this materializes, the major portion of the buildings comprising the old Institution will be demolished and it is projected to extend the Gulson Road Hospital on the site thus made available. Of the patients at present in the Public Assistance Institution, the sick and infirm and the mental cases will under the future new arrangement be accommodated in the extended Hospital. The mental defectives formerly in the Public Assistance Institution have already been transferred to the Great Barr Park Colony under the Agreement recently concluded with that Colony whereby all Coventry mental defectives requiring institutional care are to be accommodated there (see section dealing with mental deficiency). Thus in the not distant future there will be (*a*) a new Public Assistance Institution and (*b*) an extension of the appropriated Hospital. In the latter all cases requiring constant medical and nursing care will be accommodated. To provide for the transfers from the Public Assistance Institution and for the increased "acute" work of the Hospital, it will be necessary to add 230 beds to the latter, making 554 beds in all.

Allesley Hall—Convalescent Home.

During the latter part of 1937, Lord Iliffe presented to the City his one-time residence Allesley Hall, together with the gardens and parkland appertaining thereto. The City Council decided to place the Hall and a part of the gardens under the administration of the Public Health Committee for the purpose of a Convalescent Home, the remaining gardens and the parkland being handed over to the Baths and Parks Committee to be developed as a public park. The Convalescent Home (25 beds) which will be inaugurated in mid-1938, is to be conducted in connection with the Gulson Road Municipal Hospital, with the provision that two beds and two cots are to be reserved for cases referred by the maternity and child welfare section. Plans for the structural adaptation of the Hall and reports as to staffing and furnishing were in hand at the year-end.

Cost Recovery under Section 16, Local Government Act, 1929.

The amounts recovered during the completed financial years since the appropriation in connection with patients treated in the Gulson Road Hospital are as under :—

1930-1 ... £3,631	1931-2 ... £3,688
1932-3 ... £4,648	1933-4 ... £4,522
1934-5 ... £4,335	1935-6 ... £5,331
1936-7 ... £6,303	

In the terms of the current agreement between the Corporation and the Hospital Saturday Fund, the sum of £1,691 16s. 3d. was paid over by the Fund in respect of contributors treated in the Municipal Hospital during the year 1937.

Hospital Costs.

The expenditure on the Hospital for the year ended 31st December, 1937, excluding capital charges, amounted to £34,580 5s. 1d., and the receipts for the same period were £6,883 12s. 1od.

For the last three completed financial years, the average costs per patient per week were as under :—

	1934-5	1935-6	1936-7
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total net average cost	... 2 16 9 ·8d.	2 10 0 ·3d.	2 5 8 ·7d.
Average cost of provisions	... 13 3 ·5d.	10 7 ·3d.	10 3 ·2d.

Work of the Hospital during 1937.

Report of Medical Superintendent. Dr. J. Stuart Smith, the medical superintendent of the hospital, reports on the year's work as follows :—

"The statistics on the following pages again show an increase in the work of the hospital.

The increase in number of in-patients has been, as in past years, almost entirely amongst those staying less than a month.

The average length of stay has shown a slight increase—27.8 days as against 27.29 days last year. The average daily number of admissions has risen to 10.7. The average daily percentage of beds occupied has increased to 85 per cent.

As explained in last year's report, the number of hospital beds is insufficient to admit at once all those recommended for immediate admission, and a waiting list for such patients has been in operation since November. It is, as is natural, rather larger than in the previous year.

There was a marked increase in the work of the Maternity Department, and it was found necessary to hold an additional ante-natal clinic each week from 7th June. Since then ante-natal patients have attended on four mornings in each week. Monday morning is reserved for special examination and post-natal cases; Tuesday for new cases; and Wednesday and Thursday for all others. The average attendances at the Ante-Natal Clinics does not, therefore, give a true picture of the numbers, as these are naturally much greater on Wednesday and Thursday.

As mentioned in last year's report, the Ante-Natal Clinics were then situated in temporary accommodation. Since 3rd June, 1937, these hospital Ante-Natal Clinics have been held in the new Clinic buildings in Gulson Road. This arrangement has worked satisfactorily and has provided the Clinics with much improved accommodation.

There was much more illness among the nursing staff during 1937, the nursing days lost being almost three times more than in 1936. This was largely due to the outbreak of influenza in the early part of the year, which unfortunately depleted the nursing staff when the hospital work was naturally for the same reason accentuated.

Co-operation with General Practitioners. The system of sending reports to medical practitioners on the discharge of their patients was continued.

Radium Treatment for Cancer. Three cases were referred during the year for radium treatment to the National Radium Centre in Birmingham.

Hospital Alterations and Repairs. In September last, alterations were commenced in the Maternity block to provide additional labour ward accommodation, re-organisation and enlargement of the Medical Officers' quarters on the ground floor, and the provision of accommodation for Medical Superintendent's and Stewards' offices. These changes were completed in March, 1938. Consequent on these alterations, the Nurses' lecture room was transferred from the Maternity block to occupy part of the accommodation used for out-patients.

The wooden building in the grounds, formerly used for the Ante-Natal Clinic, was repaired, redecorated and refurnished during the year, and is now utilized for domestic staff quarters.

During the autumn a staff cycle shed was erected in the grounds. This includes also a gardener's shed. At the same time, a small waiting-room was erected on the first floor for out-patients.

In the early part of 1938, the ground adjoining the Nurses' Home was levelled and laid out with grass and shrubs. At the same time paths in the hospital grounds were repaired and re-laid and drained.

Equipment. During the year permission was given to obtain additional equipment for the maternity unit, massage department and operating theatre.

Staff. At the end of September, Miss Howard, Matron, resigned on account of ill-health. During her 16 years here the hospital developed out of all recognition. Thanks are due to her for her share in this, and she has the best wishes of all those associated with the hospital in her retirement.

Miss Donagh, Deputy-Matron, was promoted Matron and commenced her duties with the cordial goodwill of all.

The vacancy thus created was filled by the appointment of Miss E. Seed as Deputy-Matron.

Also at the end of September, Dr. G. M. Tucker left the hospital on the completion of his year's appointment.

Dr. A. M. Howard was appointed Assistant Resident Medical Officer in his place, and at the same time Dr. J. Spears as an additional Assistant Resident Medical Officer.

In the autumn, the Rev. A. M. Startin was appointed Church of England Chaplain and the Rev. J. Davies as Free Church Chaplain to the hospital.

For over two years, St. John's Ambulance nurses have been doing duty in the hospital on Saturday afternoons and Sundays. The scheme was introduced to give these nurses experience in hospital and to help in the staffing of the wards at week-ends. It has worked most harmoniously, and in the present difficult times, we are more than ever grateful to these nurses for their assistance.

During the year a scheme for the employment of Sub-probationer nurses was discussed by the Committee and finally completed early in 1938. Under this scheme girls will be taken on to the non-resident hospital staff as sub-probationers between the ages of 16 years and 18 years, and on reaching the age of 18 years will become probationer nurses. Thus it is hoped to bridge the gap between the time of leaving school and entering hospital.

Hospital Library Scheme. This has been carried out voluntarily during the past four years by the Rover Scouts with the co-operation of the Rev. J. Minty. Books have been supplied by the Rover Scouts, the Red Cross Hospital Library, and others. The indexing of these books and their transport round the wards twice a week is no light work, but is a service much appreciated by the patients.

I wish to express my thanks to the hospital staff and our voluntary helpers for their work and co-operation during the past year."

NURSES EXAMINATION RESULTS, 1937.

		Entered.	Passed.	Failed.
State Examination Preliminary	...	22	13	9
		These 9 re-entered and 8 passed.		
" "	Final ...	11	9	2
		These 2 re-entered and passed.		
Certificate of Central Midwives Board...		10	7	3
		2 of these re-entered and 1 passed.		

NURSING STAFF.

Complement at 31st December, 1937	...	...	Trained Nurses	28	82
			Probationer Nurses	52	
			Male Nurses	2	
Average daily complement available for duty	...	...			69
Nurses off duty sick during the year	...	...			37
Nursing days lost	...	...	...	...	912
Average No. of nursing days lost per annum per sick nurse	...	...	...	...	15.5

Disability.	No.	Major Operation.	Minor Operation.
Influenza	21	..	..
Coryza	10	..	..
Acute Bronchitis	3	..	..
Acute Tonsillitis	7	..	..
Chronic Tonsillitis	3	3	..
Appendicitis	1	1	..
Diseases of Skin	2	..	..
Furuncle	1	..	..
Whitlow	1	..	..
Osteomyelitis (Subacute)	1	..	..
Corn	1	..	..
Potts Fracture	1	..	..
Laceration Scalp	1	..	..
Contusion Chest	1	..	..
Pes Planus	1	..	..
Conjunctivitis	1	..	..
Colitis	2	..	..
Diphtheria	1	..	..
TOTALS	59	4	..

20 nurses off duty twice }
1 ,,, ,,, thrice } Making 59 admissions to Nurses'
sick room.

CLASSIFICATION OF ACCOMMODATION AND NUMBER OF BEDS
OCCUPIED AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1937.

Classification of Wards.	No. of Wards.	BEDS.							
		Men.		Women.		Children.		TOTAL.	
		Pro- vided.	Occu- pied.	Pro- vided.	Occu- pied.	Pro- vided.	Occu- pied.	Pro- vided.	Occu- pied.
Medical and Surgical	4	70	54	65	61	..	..	135	115
Chronic Sick	2	32	31	40	40	..	..	72	71
Children ..	..	..	..	..	..	76	56	76	56
Venereal ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculosis *	3	10	9	6	6	4	2	20	17
Maternity ..	..	..	..	24	29	..	..	24	23
Other ..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..
Total ..	..	112	94	137	136	80	58	329	288

* Verandahs.

STATISTICS RELATING TO THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER,
1937.

			Year 1937.	Year 1936.
1.	Total No. of admissions (including infants born in hospital) ...	...	3,913	3,408
2.	No. of women confined in hospital	...	717	549
3.	No. of live births	...	684	526
4.	No. of still births	...	44	25
5.	No. of deaths among the newly-born (<i>i.e.</i> , under 4 weeks of age) ...	...	18	17
6.	No. of deaths among children under 1 year (including those given under preceding heading) ...	...	40	28
7.	No. of maternal deaths among women confined in hospital ...	...	4	3
8.	Total No. of deaths ...	...	496	454
9.	Total No. of discharges (including infants born in hospital) ...	...	3,397	2,909
10.	Duration of stay of patients included in 8 and 9 above :—			
	No. of patients whose total stay was :			
	(a) four weeks or less ...	...	3,205	2,730
	(b) 4—13 weeks ...	...	528	485
	(c) over 13 weeks ...	...	137	139
	No. of Patient-days ...	...	102,138	100,773
11.	No. of beds occupied :—			
	(a) average during the year ...	...	280	275
	(b) Max. on 18th July ...	...	306	317
	(c) Min. on 26th July ...	...	246	231
12.	No. of surgical operations under general anaesthetic (excluding dental operations)	...	790	778
13.	No. of abdominal sections ...	...	125	97

CLASSIFICATION OF IN-PATIENTS WHO WERE DISCHARGED FROM
 OR WHO DIED IN THE HOSPITAL DURING THE YEAR
 ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1937.

Disease Groups.	Children (under 16 years)		Men and Women.	
	Dis- charged	Died	Dis- charged	Died
A. Acute Infectious Disease	22	2	11	8
B. Influenza	5	..	25	5
C. Tuberculosis—				
Pulmonary .. .. ..	..	3	39	40
Non-Pulmonary	1	4	5	1
D. Malignant Disease .. .. ..	..	..	30	63
E. Rheumatism—				
(1) Acute Rheumatism (rheumatic fever) together with sub-acute rheumatism and chorea	12	..	10	..
(2) Non-articular manifestations of so-called "rheumatism" (Muscular rheumatism, fibrositis, lumbago and sciatica) .. .. ..	..	..	7	..
(3) Chronic arthritis .. .. ..	..	..	14	..
F. Venereal Disease	4	..	29	3
G. Puerperal pyrexia .. .. ..	..	..	10	..
H. Puerperal fever—				
(a) Women confined in the hospital .. .. ..	..	..	4	2
(b) Admitted from outside .. .. ..	..	..	9	3
I. Other diseases and accidents connected with pregnancy and childbirth	1	16	311	5
J. Mental diseases—				
(a) Senile dementia .. .. ..	..	..	7	..
(b) Other .. .. ..	..	..	11	..
K. Senile decay .. .. ..	..	..	4	2
L. Accidental injury and violence	17	..	90	23
<i>In respect of cases not included above.</i>				
M. Disease of Nervous System and Sense Organs ..	33	3	36	8
N. „ „ Respiratory System	585	13	188	65
O. „ „ Circulatory „	6	6	117	153
P. „ „ Digestive „	72	17	136	13
Q. „ „ Genito-urinary System	72	1	82	22
R. „ „ Skin	43	..	28	1
S. Other diseases	32	8	62	6
T. Mothers and Infants discharged from Maternity wards and not included in above figures	Mothers Infants	.. 633	.. ..	587 ..
U. Any persons not falling under any of the above headings				
	Totals	1544	73	1853
				423

OPERATIVE WORK PERFORMED IN THE HOSPITAL
DURING THE YEAR 1937.

OPERATION	ANÆSTHETICS					Section Totals.
	Inhalations	Spinals	Intravenous	Local	Others	
<i>Gastro-Intestinal.</i>						
Appendicectomy ..	57	..	..	..	..	57
Hernia ..	20	2	..	..	..	22
Perforated Gastric Ulcer Suture ..	2	..	..	..	..	2
G.E. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gastro-enterostomy ..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Laparotomy and Drainage ..	8	..	..	..	..	8
Re-section of Bowel ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Ramstedt's Operation ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Hæmorrhoids ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Intussusception ..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Gastrostomy ..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Cholecystostomy ..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Cholecystectomy ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Others ..	11	..	..	..	1	12
<i>Bones and Joints.</i>						113
Osteomyelitis ..	5	..	..	..	..	5
Amputations ..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Fractures and Dislocations ..	10	..	1	..	1	12
Plasters ..	6	..	..	..	..	6
Others ..	6	..	1	4	..	11
<i>Genito-Urinary.</i>						36
Circumcisions ..	43	..	..	..	29	72
Suprapubic Cystotomy ..	1	..	..	6	..	7
Nephrectomy ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cystoscopy ..	1	..	..	..	1	2
Prostatectomy ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Others ..	7	1	..	1	1	10
<i>Gynaecological and Obstetrical.</i>						91
Dilatation and Ourettage ..	22	..	..	..	..	22
Ectopic Gestation ..	2	..	..	..	..	2
Hysterectomy ..	7	..	..	..	..	7
Amputation Breast ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Caesarian Section ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Salpingectomy ..	6	..	..	..	..	6
Perineorrhaphy ..	1	1	..	..	1	3
Others ..	10	2	..	..	..	12
<i>Nose, Throat and Ear.</i>						554
Removal of Tonsils and Adenoids:						
(a) By Guillotine ..	492	..	..	..	..	492
(b) By Dissection ..	24	..	..	..	..	24
Mastoidectomy ..	6	..	..	..	..	6
Myringotomy ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nasal Polypi ..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Antrostomy ..	8	..	..	..	..	3
Others ..	1	..	..	..	..	1
<i>Cervical and Thoracic.</i>						527
Rib Re-section and Drainage	5	..	..	1	..	6
<i>Others</i> ..	20	..	1	16	..	37
						37
	791	6	3	29	34	..
						863

Maternity Department.

Ante-Natal Clinic.

Sessions	...	...	...	...	184
New cases attending	...	...	...	...	923
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	5,901
Average No. seen per session	...	...	...	...	32

Maternity Unit.

Confinements	...	...	...	...	717
Delivered by midwives	...	...	...	...	682
Delivered by doctors	...	...	...	...	35
Midwives sought medical assistance for	...	...	...	...	293
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	5
Pemphigus Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	—
Infants not entirely breast-fed	...	...	...	...	53
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	—
Maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	4

Causes :—

1. P.P.H; Retained Placenta; Albuminuria of Pregnancy.
2. Septicæmia; Obstructed labour (Hydrocephalous, Craniotomy).
3. Insanity of Pregnancy; Uterine Inertia; Retained Placenta; P.P.H.
4. Broncho Pneumonia; Acute Suppurative Thrombo-Phlebitis.

Still Births 44

Causes :—

1. Macerated foetus; Maternal B.W.R.-ve 3
2. Macerated foetus; Pyelitis of Pregnancy 1
3. Macerated foetus; Diabetes Mellitus 1
4. Macerated foetus; Accidental Hæmorrhage 1
5. Albuminuria of Pregnancy 3
6. Eclampsia 2
7. Placenta Prævia 4
8. Pyelitis of Pregnancy; Med. Ind. and Ergometrine 1
9. Disproportion; Med. Ind. and Ergometrine 1
10. Disproportion; Strong labour pains ... 1
11. Prolonged labour; Uterine inertia ... 4
12. Prolonged labour; Disproportion ... 2
13. Prolonged labour; Face presentation ... 1
14. Breech—extended legs 1
15. Prolapsed cord 1

16.	Postmaturity : Extradural Haemorrhage (P.M.)	...	...	...	...	1
17.	Foetal Polycystic Kidneys; Obstructed labour; Evisceration	...	...	...	...	1
18.	Hydrocephalous; Craniotomy	...	...	...	...	2
19.	Hydrocephalous and Maceration; Maternal B.W.R. -ve.	...	...	...	...	1
20.	Anencephalous	...	...	...	...	1
21.	Prematurity—twins	...	...	...	...	9
22.	Prematurity	...	...	...	...	1
23.	Cause not found	...	...	...	...	1

Deaths within 10 days of birth 11

Causes :—

1.	Prematurity	...	...	...	...	6
2.	Prematurity—twins	...	...	...	...	2
3.	Prematurity—Hydramnios	...	...	...	...	1
4.	Icterus Neonatorum; Fatty Liver (P.M.)	...	...	...	...	1
5.	B.B.A. Asphyxia	...	...	...	...	1

COMPARATIVE FIGURES.

		1935	1936	1937
Beds—Complement at 31st December	...	324	324	329
,, Average daily number occupied	...	266	275	280
Average daily percentage available beds occupied	...	82.1	84.9	85.0
Nursing staff average daily (available for duty)	...	..	71.4	69
Beds—Average number per nurse available for duty	...	...	4.5	4.7
Admissions	...	2,965	3,408	3,913
Average daily number of admissions	...	8.1	9.3	10.7
Discharges (including infants born in hospital)	2,488	2,909	3,397	
Deaths	474	454	496	
Total cases treated to a conclusion	2,962	3,363	3,893	
Number of patient days	96,968	100,773	102,138	
Length of stay: average in days per patient	30.2	27.29	27.8	
Discharged—under four weeks	2,337	2,789	3,228	
,, 4 to 13 weeks	493	485	528	
,, 13 weeks and over	132	139	137	
,, under four weeks (per cent.)	78.9	81.44	82.9	
Patients died (per cent.)	16	13.5	12.7	
Operations...	739	937	863	
Radiological investigations	991	1,235	1,723	
Massage Treatment	4,606	6,202	6,324	
Electro-therapeutic and light treatments				
Casualties and out-patients	330	504	823	
Casualty and out-patient attendances	4,292	4,201	5,176	
Ante-natal Clinic—women examined	532	714	923	
,, , attendances	3,729	4,727	5,901	

Confinements	...	...	...	...	441	549	717
Maternal deaths (women confined in hospital)					4	3	4
Live births	...	...	...	...	427	526	684
Still-births	...	...	...	...	18	25	44
Total births	...	...	...	...	445	551	728
Still-birth rate (per cent.)	...	...	...	...	4.04	4.54	6.0
Neo-natal deaths	...	...	...	...	9	13	11

District Medical Services.

These services are administered by the Public Health Committee on behalf of the Public Assistance Committee. The figures representing the year's work of the four district medical officers are set out below :—

	Medical Districts.				Total.	
	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.		
No. of sick persons seen	..	937	631	553	591	2 712

Attendances at patients' homes	...	...	1,172
Attendances of patients at doctors' surgeries	...	...	1,495
No. of occasions on which medicine was supplied	..	..	1,135

Tuberculosis

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table is given to show the trend of the death rate from tuberculosis and that of the incidence of the disease in the City over the past ten years.

Year.	Tuberculosis Death-Rate in the City. (All forms per 1,000 population).	Tuberculosis Incidence in the City. (All forms per 1,000 population).
1937	0.75	1.57
1936	0.86	1.61
1935	0.88	1.41
1934	0.91	1.49
1933	0.83	1.51
1932	0.87	1.43
1931	0.94	1.51
1930	0.94	1.50
1929	1.02	1.83
1928	0.99	2.22

During the year under review, there were 238 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis (phthisis) and 35 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis notified in the City. In addition, 51 cases (31 pulmonary and 20 non-pulmonary) came to notice other than by way of formal notification. Deaths registered as due to pulmonary tuberculosis totalled 122, and those due to other forms of the disease 33, giving death rates of 0.59 and 0.16 respectively.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases of Tuberculosis and Deaths from the Disease during 1937.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
1 ..	2	2	3	2	..	..	..	..
5 ..	4	..	4	5	..	1	3	4
10 ..	4	3	7	3	..	..	1	1
15 ..	14	26	6	7	..	..	5	2
20 ..	30	27	2	3	2	7	4	2
25 ..	34	25	5	6	3	15	1	..
35 ..	20	14	1	1	12	23	3	..
45 ..	32	8	..	1	18	8	2	1
55 ..	14	3	1	..	13	5	1	1
65 or over	5	2	..	..	13	2	1	..
Totals ..	159	110	29	28	61	61	21	12

Live Register of Tuberculosis Patients.

	Pulmonary Cases.			Non-Pulmonary Cases.			Total Cases (All Forms).		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1. No. on Register at 31/12/1936...	470	346	816	74	72	146	544	418	962
2. Cases notified (or otherwise coming to knowledge) in 1937	159	110	269	29	28	57	188	138	326
	629	456	1085	103	100	203	732	556	1288
3. Cases removed from Register in 1937	105	97	202	28	19	47	133	116	249
4. No. on Register at 31/12/1937 ...	524	359	883	75	81	156	599	440	1039

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis and the matter of Milk Supplies.

A special report on the above subject was presented during the year to the Warwickshire and Coventry Joint Tuberculosis Committee jointly by the County Medical Officer of Health, the Tuberculosis Officer and the present writer. The substance of the report is reproduced below, viz. : -

1. "The large majority of cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis come within the category of 'surgical tuberculosis'; the latter term embraces tuberculous affections of bones, joints, intestines and glands. Tuberculosis of these parts is frequently caused by the action of the bovine type of tubercle bacillus, and the mode of infection is by ingestion—that is to say, the infection is swallowed. In these cases the bovine tubercle bacillus enters the human body through the medium of food derived from tuberculous animals. Although tuberculous meat may occasionally convey infection, milk containing tubercle bacilli is the usual vehicle. It is noteworthy that as early as 1895 the Royal Commission then appointed to enquire into the effect of food derived from tuberculous animals concluded that 'the largest part of the tuberculosis which man obtains through his food is by means of milk containing tuberculous matter.' This view has since been endorsed and proved beyond doubt.

2. Surgical tuberculosis is pre-eminently a disease of childhood. When the infection attacks bones and joints, severe crippling conditions may often result and persist in later life. The nature of institutional treatment and orthopædic treatment in connection with surgical tuberculosis is such that the cost per case is relatively high. The total cost to the Warwickshire and Coventry Joint Committee during the last financial year in connection with the institutional and orthopædic treatment of local non-pulmonary tuberculosis cases was £7,094. The results of the treatment have been good and the money has therefore been well

spent. It is clear, however, that on both humanitarian and economic grounds measures of prevention constitute the best ultimate course. Nevertheless it is clear that, at any rate for some years to come, there will be continued necessity for adequate financial provision in connection with the treatment of non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

3. During the last three years the numbers of notifications of non-pulmonary tuberculosis cases in the areas appertaining to the Joint Committee were :—

	Year 1934	Year 1935	Year 1936
Administrative County of Warwickshire ..	113	87	116
City of Coventry	50	48	51

During the same period, the numbers of deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis were :—

	Year 1934	Year 1935	Year 1936
Administrative County of Warwickshire ..	44	34	34
City of Coventry	27	22	18

4. The incidence of non-pulmonary tuberculosis is such that serious attention must at all times be directed towards preventative measures. It is held in the most authoritative medical circles that, if tubercle-infected milk could be eliminated from our milk supplies, the incidence of non-pulmonary tuberculosis would be very materially reduced. The remedy is therefore clear, although it is exceedingly difficult to apply.

5. To prevent milk-borne tuberculosis infection the following alternative measures are available, viz. :—

- (a) All milk supplies must be derived from herds proven to be tubercle-free.
- (b) All milk supplies must be so treated that any infective material therein is rendered innocuous.

In regard to (a), the desired end could only be attained by eliminating all tubercle-infected cattle and retaining only such milch cows as are proved by the tuberculin test to be free from tuberculosis. If this were done to-day, it is estimated that only 60 per cent. at most of the existing milch cows would remain. This would mean that the nation's normal quantitative demands

for milk could no longer be met. The supply of Tuberculin Tested milk is thus not an immediate solution for general application because (i) there cannot be enough of it to meet general demand, and (ii) it is too costly for the mass of the people.

In regard to (b), the process of pasteurization is available for the purpose of rendering innocuous such infective material as may be contained in milk. In pasteurization, the milk is so treated by heat that all harmful organisms in it are killed while the full nutritive properties of the milk are retained. Moreover, pasteurized milk can be sold at the same price as ordinary raw milk.

6. There are three types of graded milk, viz. :—‘Tuberculin-tested,’ ‘Pasteurized’ and ‘Accredited.’ The first two have been dealt with in paragraph 5 above. Accredited milk is milk which is derived from cows subjected to ordinary veterinary inspection (but not a tuberculin test) and which conforms to prescribed bacteriological standards. Although accredited milk is superior to raw ungraded milk, there is no guarantee that it is free from tuberculosis infection, and in fact this type of milk is found on occasion to contain tubercle bacilli. Accredited milk does not, therefore, offer any solution in connection with non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

7. After consideration of all the circumstances in connection with milk supplies, it appears that the only effective measure in connection with the prevention of non-pulmonary tuberculosis is that of restricting milk supplies to Tuberculin-Tested milk and Pasteurized milk. For general application pasteurized milk (owing to its lower price and adequate potential supplies) is the only immediate solution. This suggested restriction can only be brought about by legislation. In this connection, it is interesting to note the views of the Government as contained in the recent ‘White Paper’ on Milk Policy published in July, 1937. In the latter, the hope is expressed that future legislation will enable any Local Authority to apply to the Minister of Health for an Order making compulsory the efficient pasteurization of all milk (save tuberculin-tested milk and sterilized milk) sold by retail in its area.

Conclusion.

Non-pulmonary tuberculosis is largely due to milk-borne infection. The general use of efficiently pasteurized milk (and of tuberculin-tested milk for the minority) would be likely to prove a most effective measure of prevention.”

Memorial Sanatorium.

Reference was made in last year’s Report to the scheme of structural additions and improvements at the King Edward VII Memorial Sanatorium. These were completed during the year under review and the Sanatorium Extension was formally opened on June 28th, 1937, by Sir Arthur S. MacNalty, the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health.

The Extension comprises enlarged administrative accommodation, improved out-patient arrangements, the addition of 28 sanatorium beds and the re-organisation of the engineering and electrical services. The approximate cost was £35,000. The Sanatorium now has 225 beds.

The following is a brief description of the new accommodation provided, viz. :—

The new Clinic and Ward Block consist of a three-storey building, with entrance hall, staircase and bed lift. The Clinic is on the ground floor and comprises (i) medical superintendent's office, (ii) two consulting rooms, (iii) a fully-equipped X-ray suite consisting of X-ray room, dark room and transformer room, (iv) light and heat treatment unit with waiting room, dressing cubicles and treatment room, (v) operating theatre suite, (vi) laboratory and (vii) dental surgery.

The first floor of the new block consists of two wings containing twelve and eight single-bed wards respectively.

On the second floor, a further wing containing eight single-bed wards is provided, together with a large dining and recreation room for patients. This floor is so planned that extension to provide twelve further beds can readily be effected if and when necessary.

The Year's Work of the Tuberculosis Dispensary.

Dr. J. McG. Williams, the Tuberculosis Officer, reports as follows :—

" During the year 1937 the number of new Coventry patients, including 30 transfers from other areas, examined at, or in connection with, the Dispensary was 1,186, as compared with 986 in 1936, and 990 in 1935.

Of the 1,186 patients examined, 1,097 attended the Dispensary and 89 were examined in their homes. The total attendances of Coventry patients at the Dispensary amounted to 6,050 and 186 home visits were made to old patients during the year. In 1936, the total number of attendances was 5,151, and in 1935, 5,389.

It will be noted that there is an increase of 200 in the number of new cases examined at the Dispensary during 1937, and an increase of 899 in the attendances over the previous year. In my opinion this increase is partly due to the rapid increase in the population of Coventry in recent years, and partly to an increased use of the Tuberculosis Service by Medical Practitioners in the City. The number of tuberculous patients diagnosed in 1936 was 197 pulmonary cases and 22 non-pulmonary cases, a total of 219 out of 986 persons examined, or 22 per cent. In 1937 the number of tuberculous patients diagnosed was 229 pulmonary cases and 26 non-pulmonary cases, a total of 255 out of 1,186 persons examined, or 21.5 per cent.

The Dispensary is open on Tuesdays from 5—8 p.m., and on Fridays from 2—5 p.m., but patients can be seen on other days by appointment, and during 1937 the Dispensary was frequently

open on other days for the examination of old patients and contacts, and for artificial pneumothorax treatment.

The only changes in the Medical Staff of the Joint Committee occurred at the Memorial Sanatorium. Particulars of these changes have been reported to the House Committee.

In addition to the following tables, which give the usual information about Coventry patients dealt with under the Joint Committee's scheme, further tables will be found at the end of this report :—

New Patients—

Adults	Male .. 448	1186*	Pulmonary .. 229	1186*
	Female .. 448		Non-Pulmonary .. 26	
Children	Male .. 144		Not Tuberculous .. 981	0
	Female .. 146		Doubtful (under observa- tion 31st Dec., 1937) 0	

* Including 30 transfers from other areas, all tuberculous.

	On Dispensary Treatment 1st January, 1937.	Put on Dispensary Treatment during 1937.	Total.
Adults ..	9	2	11
Children ..	1	0	1

Contacts Examined.	Tuberculous.	Not Tuberculous.	Doubtful—under observation.
497	22	475	0

Contacts.

	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Over 15 .. .	95	184	279
Under 15 .. .	110	108	218

Total Attendances of Coventry Patients ... 6,050¹

Total Attendances of County Patients ... 804²

6,854

¹ Including 106 attendances for artificial pneumothorax treatment.

² Including 9 attendances for artificial pneumothorax treatment.

Stage of Disease (New Cases).

Tubercle Bacilli not present.	Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.				Doubtful under observation.	Not Tuberculous.	Total.			
	Tubercle Bacilli present.			Bones and Joints	Abdominal	Other Organs	Peripheral Glands						
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3										
41	45	78	65	9	6	4	7	0	931	1186			
229				26									

Age Periods (New Cases).

0-5.	5-10.	10-15.	15-20.	20-25.	25-30.	30-35.	35-40.	40-45.	45-50.	50-55.	55-60.	Over 60.	Total.
5	6	7	48	54	34	24	19	15	12	16	9	6	255

Condition of Teeth (New Cases).

Good, up to 4 Decayed.	More than 4 Decayed.	Pyorrhœa Alveolaris	Dentures, Partial or Complete.	Total.
149	30	24.	52	255

Family History of Tuberculosis (New Cases).

Near Relative(s) Tuberculous.	Distant Relative(s) Tuberculous.	No Relative(s) Tuberculous.	Total.
68	20	167	255

Sputum Examinations.—Three thousand one hundred and fifty-four (3,154) specimens of sputum were examined in the Laboratory of the Dispensary and 64 specimens were sent to the Lister Institute. The sputum of 188 patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis contained tubercle bacilli, 18 patients had no sputum, and the sputum of 23 patients was negative.

Institutional Treatment.—Information concerning the number of admissions and discharges, average length of stay, and the Institutions made use of during the year is given in the following tables :—

Sanatoria :—

		Admissions.	Discharges.
Creaton, Northamptonshire	... 1	1	1
Memorial	... 189	174	

Hospitals :—

Coventry and Warwickshire	... 2	1	
City of London Chest Hospital	... 2	3	
Manfield, Northampton	... 10	11	
Paybody Convalescent Home, Allesley	... 4	7	
Rugby, St. Cross Hospital	... 2	1	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	210	198	

Deaths in Institutions (included in Discharges) :—

Memorial Sanatorium	... ...	... ...	25
Manfield Hospital	... ...	... ...	1
Rugby, St. Cross Hospital	... ...	... ...	1
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		27	<hr/>

Average duration of treatment, all Institutions 27.1 weeks

Average duration of treatment, Memorial Sanatorium 26.5 weeks.

Details as to the immediate results of treatment will be found on a later page.

Contributions by Patients.—The Treasurer informs me that the total amount received in contributions towards the cost of their institutional treatment from Warwickshire and Coventry patients during the year was £465 13s. 8d. The amount received in 1936 was £719 16s. 7d.; in 1935, £529 1s. 2d.; and in 1934, £512 7s. 1d.

Working Capacity.—Examinations of patients were carried out with a view to ascertaining their working capacity. The following table gives the number at work, the number not working but fit for light work, and the number not working and unfit for work of any kind :—

Doing some work at date of examination.	Not working, but fit for light work.	Unfit for work of any kind.	Total
543	65	343	951
57.1%	6.8%	36.1%	

Contacts.—The routine examination of contacts was continued, and as usual, little difficulty was experienced in arranging the examinations. It was found that 22 persons out of 497

examined were tuberculous. Further particulars will be found in the tables earlier in this Report and in Table I., page 60.

Dispensary Treatment.—The number of patients who attended the Dispensary for some form of treatment was 12. The total attendances of these patients was 105.

X-Ray Examinations.—There were 1,530 X-ray examinations of Coventry patients during 1937, 495 photographs and 1,035 screen examinations.

Shelters.—The Joint Committee continued to make use of the shelters owned by the City Council, as in previous years. On the 31st December, 1937, 6 Coventry shelters were in use. During the year 6 shelters were removed on ceasing to be required and 4 shelters were erected at new addresses.

Children.—Two hundred and ninety (290) children up to the age of 15, including seven patients transferred from other areas, were examined at, or in connection with, the Dispensary. Of these, eight were suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, and ten from non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The pulmonary cases were classified into Stage T.B. —, 6; T.B. + Stage 1, 1; T.B. + Stage 2, 0; T.B. + Stage 3, 1; and the non-pulmonary into Bones and Joints, 3; abdominal, 1; Other Organs, 1; Peripheral Glands, 5.

Dental Treatment.—Particulars of the dental treatment given at the Memorial Sanatorium appear in the Annual Report of the Medical Superintendent. Two patients under supervision at the Dispensary had dental treatment during the year.

After-Care.—Efforts were made to obtain suitable employment, clothing and financial help for necessitous cases on the same lines as in previous years. There were 285 applications for help. The Tuberculosis Nurse dealt with the cases as follows:—

Financial help	...	...	...	108
Clothing supplied	...	...	...	50
Nursing arrangements		...	...	34
Sent to Convalescent Homes		...	...	12
Social Service	...	...	...	17
Coal Tickets obtained	...	...	...	50
Employment found	...	...	...	2
Unable to help	...	...	...	12
				285

A sum of £118 os. 5d. was given by charitable societies and persons interested in certain patients. Weekly grants in money and kind were made to 3 patients.

The Tuberculosis Nurse made 407 visits to patients' homes, 37 of these being to discharged ex-service men, and the Health Visitors paid 1,709 visits, of which 28 were to discharged sailors and soldiers.

Sixty-two (62) of the visits made by the Health Visitors were to patients not under the care of the Joint Committee. Nurses of the Coventry and District Nursing Association and the Foleshill Nursing Association paid 971 visits to tuberculosis patients during 1937, 65 of these being to patients not under the care of the Joint Committee.

Extra Nourishment.—The Joint Committee continued to grant extra nourishment to suitable cases. Their expenditure does not exceed £2 per 1,000 of the population of the area. During the year the Committee provided extra nourishment for 46 Coventry patients. The Treasurer informs me that £246 14s. 8d. was spent on extra nourishment for Coventry patients and £727 1s. 5d. for Warwickshire patients during the year. In 1936 the amount spent for the whole of the Joint Committee's area was £886 13s. 10d., and in 1935, £844 10s. 6d. Cases of extreme poverty which can only be dealt with by the Public Assistance Committee are referred to that Committee.

Payment of Patients' Travelling Expenses.—The Joint Committee have power to pay the travelling expenses of necessitous patients between their homes and Dispensaries and Sanatoria. During the year the sum of 9/3d. was spent on Coventry patients.

Co-operation with the General Practitioners continued on a satisfactory basis. The number of reports on insured persons received from panel practitioners during the year was:—On Form G.P. 17 (initial reports), 123; on Form G.P. 36 (progress reports), 666; total 789. In 1936 the numbers were respectively: 110, 665, 775.

Orthopædic and Light Treatment.—The number of attendances of patients under the care of the Joint Committee at the Orthopædic Clinic was 557. In 1936 it was 419. Light treatment for those patients needing it is given in the Out-Patient Department of the Sanatorium. The number of attendances of these patients during 1937 was 124; and in 1936 it was 62.

The following information relating to the incidence of, and the deaths from, tuberculosis, and the provision made for the institutional treatment of the disease, is taken from the Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, and may be of interest.

The number of new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in England and Wales fell from 59,520 in 1926 to 44,815 in 1936, and the number of non-pulmonary cases fell from 20,134 to 14,454.

The number of deaths registered from all forms of tuberculosis in England and Wales fell from 37,525 in 1926 to 28,268 in 1936. The deaths in 1936 were 933 less than in 1935.

In England at the end of December, 1935, the number of beds in Residential Institutions approved for the treatment of tuberculosis was 29,777, and 466 Dispensaries were approved for tuberculosis work."

Annual Return showing the work of the Tuberculosis Dispensary.

DIAGNOSIS.	Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary				Total				Grand Total	
	Adults		Children		Adults		Children		Adults		Children			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
A. NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts):—														
(a) Definitely tuberculous ..	118	64	2	1	4	8	3	3	122	72	5	4	659	
* (b) Diagnosis not completed ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0	0	0	
(c) Non-tuberculous ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	220	180	24	32	
B. CONTACTS examined during the year:—														
(a) Definitely tuberculous ..	7	12	2	0	0	1	0	0	7	13	2	0		
* (b) Diagnosis not completed ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0	0	0	497
(c) Non-tuberculous ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	88	171	108	108	
C. CASES written off the Dispensary Register as:—														
(a) Recovered	26	24	2	1	4	6	9	3	30	30	11	4		
(b) Non-tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the Dispensary Register as tuberculous) .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	308	352	132	140	1007
D. NUMBER OF CASES on Dispensary Register on Dec. 31st:—														
(a) Definitely tuberculous ..	425	279	9	10	28	37	23	19	453	316	32	29	830	
(b) Diagnosis not completed ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	0	0	0	
1. Number of cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st ..	..	809											
2. Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years .. ..	..	38											
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the scheme, and cases "lost sight of"	..	49												
4. Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes) .. ..	..	117											
5. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including contacts)	..	6050												
6. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December .. .. ..	..	208											
7. Number of consultations with medical practitioners:—														
(a) Personal + .. .. ..	..	167											
(b) Other .. .. ..	..	715											
(B) Number of Dispensaries for the treatment of Tuberculosis (excluding centres used only for special forms of treatment):—														
Provided by the Council Joint Committee .. .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Provided by Voluntary Bodies ..													0	

* i.e., remaining undiagnosed on 31st December (see Memo. 37/T (Revised), p. 10, Sec. II., Note 4).

+ All personal consultations, whether held at the homes of patients or elsewhere, should be included in Item 7 (a); and all visits by Tuberculosis Officers to homes, whether or not accompanied by a personal consultation already included in Item 7 (a), should be entered in Item 8.

FIRST SCHEDULE (G).

Return showing the immediate results of treatment of definitely Tuberculous patients discharged during the year from Institutions approved for the treatment of Tuberculosis.

Classification on admission to the Institution.	Condition at time of discharge.	Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institutions.												Grand Totals.			
		* Under 3 months, but exceeding 28 days.			3-6 months.			6-12 months.			More than 12 months.						
		M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.				
Class T.B. minus.	Quiescent ..	0	0	0	2	3	0	4	1	0	1	0	1	7	4	1	12
	Not quiescent ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Died in Institution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Class T.B. plus. Group 1.	Quiescent ..	2	0	0	5	1	0	3	7	0	0	1	0	10	9	0	19
	Not quiescent ..	2	3	0	5	1	0	3	2	0	0	1	0	10	7	0	17
	Died in Institution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
Class T.B. plus. Group 2.	Quiescent ..	0	0	0	5	3	0	7	7	0	1	1	0	13	11	0	24
	Not quiescent ..	4	3	0	9	11	0	10	2	0	2	1	1	25	17	1	43
	Died in Institution	2	4	0	1	5	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	11	0	14
Class T.B. plus. Group 3.	Quiescent ..	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	3
	Not quiescent ..	0	0	0	12	2	0	8	1	1	1	0	0	16	3	1	20
	Died in Institution	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	3
TOTALS (pulmonary)		11	10	0	40	27	0	30	24	1	7	5	2	88	66	3	157
Bones and Joints.	Quiescent ..	0	0	2	0	0	2	1	0	3	2	1	6	3	1	13	17
	Not quiescent ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
	Died in Institution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1
Abdominal.	Quiescent ..	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	2
	Not quiescent ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Died in Institution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Organs.	Quiescent ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Not quiescent ..	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	Died in Institution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Peripheral Glands.	Quiescent ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
	Not quiescent ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Died in Institution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS (non-Pulmonary)		0	1	2	0	1	2	1	0	3	2	1	10	3	3	17	23

Note.—Patients whose stay in residential institutions has not exceeded 28 days are no longer to be included in this table (see Circular 1368).

THE MEMORIAL SANATORIUM.

The following is the statistical information contained in the 1937 Annual Report on the above by Dr. Corydon Budge, the Medical Superintendent, viz.:—

TABLE I.
Warwickshire Patients.

	In Inst. on Jan. 1st, 1937	Admitted during the year	Discharged during the year	Died in the Inst.	In Inst. on Dec. 31st 1937.
No. of doubtfully tuberculous cases admitted for observation	M. F. Ch.	0 0 0	3 2 4	3 2 3	0 0 1
Total		0	9	8	1
No. of patients suffering from pulmonary tuber- culosis	M. F. Ch.	44 37 15	86 83 13	83 55 13	11 10 1
Total		96	182	151	105
No. of patients suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis	M. F. Ch.	3 0 10	4 2 14	5 0 11	1 0 0
Total		13	20	16	16
Grand Total ..	..	109	211	175	122

Coventry Patients.

	In Inst. on Jan. 1st, 1937	Admitted during the year	Discharged during the year	Died in the Inst.	In Inst. on Dec. 31st 1937.
No. of doubtfully tuberculous cases admitted for observation	M. F. Ch.	0 0 0	0 0 2	0 0 2	0 0 0
Total		0	2	2	0
No. of patients suffering from pulmonary tuber- culosis	M. F. Ch.	42 34 6	100 76 5	83 *55 4	10 16 0
Total		82	181	142	25
No. of patients suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis	M. F. Ch.	0 1 2	0 3 3	0 2 3	0 2 2
Total		3	6	5	4
Grand Total ..	..	85	189	149	25
					99

* Not including J. W. who was transferred to Worcestershire while undergoing treatment. Columns, therefore, will not tally.

TABLE II.
Warwickshire Patients.

Return showing the results of observation of doubtfully tuberculous cases discharged during the year.

Diagnosis on discharge from observation.	For Pulmonary Tuberculosis.			For Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.			Totals
	Stay under 4 weeks	Stay over 4 weeks	M. F. Ch.	Stay under 4 weeks	Stay over 4 weeks	M. F. Ch.	
Tuberculous ..	2 ..	1	1 ..	1 ..	..	..	1 3 .. 3
Non-tuberculous	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..
Doubtful ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 ..
Totals	2 ..	1	1 2 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 3 2 3

Coventry Patients.

Diagnosis on discharge from observation.	For Pulmonary Tuberculosis.			For Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.			Totals
	Stay under 4 weeks	Stay over 4 weeks	M. F. Ch.	Stay under 4 weeks	Stay over 4 weeks	M. F. Ch.	
Tuberculous	2 ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. 2
Non-tuberculous
Doubtful
Totals	2 ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. 2

TABLE III.
STAGE OF DISEASE.
Warwickshire Patients.

Class Tubercl Bacilli minus	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Non- Pulmonary	Observation
43	37	59	12	16	8

Warwickshire Total 175

Note:—23 patients have died which brings the above total to 198.

Coventry Patients.

Class Tubercl Bacilli minus	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Non- Pulmonary	Observation
14	38	66	24	5	2

Coventry Total 149

Note:—25 patients have died which brings the above total to 174.

TABLE IV.

Condition of Patients.

WARWICKSHIRE PATIENTS.

Quiescent.	Non-Quiescent.	Died.	Observation.
83	84	23	8
Warwickshire Total 198			

COVENTRY PATIENTS.

Quiescent.	Non-Quiescent.	Died.	Observation.
63	84	25	2
Coventry Total 174			

TABLE V.

Duration of Stay.

WARWICKSHIRE PATIENTS.

No. of patients discharged during 1937, who had more than 12 months' treatment						24
"	"	"	"	"	6-12	66
"	"	"	"	"	3-6	68
"	"	"	"	"	under 3	24
						Total .. 182

NOTE.—8 patients having been in the Sanatorium for 28 days or under, are not included in Table V.

8 observation cases are not included in Table V.

COVENTRY PATIENTS.

No. of patients discharged during 1937, who had more than 12 months' treatment						16
"	"	"	"	"	6-12	55
"	"	"	"	"	3-6	67
"	"	"	"	"	under 3	21
						Total .. 159

NOTE.—13 patients having been in the Sanatorium for 28 days or under, are not included in Table V.

2 observation cases are not included in Table V.

Average duration of stay of Warwickshire patients	29·4 weeks.
" Coventry	26·5 "

Venereal Diseases

Treatment Centre

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The Treatment Centre is at the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital and the routine medical sessions are :—

For women :—	{	Tuesday evenings. Friday afternoons.
For men :—	{	Monday evenings. Thursday evenings.

The Centre is open all day on every weekday for irrigation work, etc.

At the present time, an extension is being provided at the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital. The additional buildings in course of erection include a new Out-Patient Department of which a part is designed as an up-to-date V.D. Treatment Centre.

The work of the Centre during the year under review is set out in statistical form in the accompanying tables.

In connection with the treatment of venereal diseases by private medical practitioners (of whom there are 27 on the approved list), the following approved therapeutic substances were supplied during the year :—Novarsenobillon, 102 doses; neo-salvarsan, 50 doses; bismostab, 45 doses; sulphostab, 6 doses.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE SERVICES RENDERED AT THE TREATMENT CENTRE DURING THE YEAR, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE AREAS IN WHICH THE PATIENTS RESIDED.

Name of County or County Borough (or County in the case of persons residing elsewhere than in England and Wales) to be inserted in these headings	County Borough of Coventry	County of Warwickshire	Total	Name of County or County Borough (or County in the case of persons residing elsewhere than in England and Wales) to be inserted in these headings	County Borough of Coventry	County of Warwickshire	Total
				B. Total number of attendances of all patients residing in each area	C. Aggregate number of "In-patient days" of all patients residing in each area	69	
A. Number of cases in Item 3 from each area found to be suffering from :—							
Syphilis	...	...	53	2	55	...	26518
Soft Chancre	...	...	...	..	3	...	2165
Gonorrhœa	...	...	314	30	344	...	28683
Conditions other than venereal	...	...	177	17	194	18	18
	TOTAL	...	547	49	596	...	69

The Joint Laboratory Scheme

SCHEME FOR A COVENTRY JOINT LABORATORY.

Preliminary mention of this scheme was made in the 1936 Report. The departmental bacteriological and pathological work has hitherto been put out on payment partly to the University of Birmingham public health laboratory, partly to the Lister Institute, London, and partly to the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital laboratory. The rapid growth of the City and the increasing amount of pathological work required by the Gulson Road Municipal Hospital have conducted to mounting costs in connection with the departmental laboratory work under present arrangements. This consideration and the fact that, in the case of certain specimens sent out of Coventry for investigation, some degree of delay necessarily obtains in obtaining reports, have caused the Public Health Committee to examine the possibility of concentrating all the departmental work in a laboratory within the City. Concurrently with this the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital Board has found it necessary to contemplate the extension and rehousing of their laboratory in order to meet the Hospital's own increased needs in that connection.

These circumstances led rationally enough to the proposal that the Corporation and the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital should join forces to establish a Coventry Joint Laboratory. During 1937, this proposal duly crystallised into a Scheme, of which the essential features, as agreed between representatives of the Corporation and of the Voluntary Hospital, are set out below :—

Laboratory Premises.

(i). The Joint Laboratory will be established in a suitable available building appertaining to the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital. The building in question was formerly used as the scarlet fever block of the former City Isolation Hospital. The north-west wing of the block, together with the whole of the basement will be used for the purpose of the Laboratory.

(ii). The above-mentioned portions of the block will be adapted and renovated as necessary for use as a laboratory. The cost of this work and of the necessary additional laboratory equipment will be borne by the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital.

(iii). A rent of £400 per annum will be charged by the Hospital against the scheme, the rent to cover the provision, replacement and repair of the building and equipment.

(iv). There will also be charged against the scheme any increase in the rates paid by the Hospital in respect of the new Laboratory.

(v). The Corporation agree to indemnify the Hospital against any loss due to the Corporation's action should they terminate the joint arrangement, but the indemnity is not to apply to members of the laboratory staff who would after termination of the arrangement continue in the employment of the Hospital.

Management of the Joint Laboratory.

(vi). The routine management of the Joint Laboratory will be delegated to a Joint Committee of ten—five representatives from the Public Health Committee of the Corporation and five representatives from the Board of the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital. The Chairman of the Joint Committee will be elected annually provided that the first Chairman shall be the Chairman for the time being of the Hospital Board.

Staffing of the Laboratory.

(vii). The first medical director of the Joint Laboratory is to be the present Pathologist of the existing Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital laboratory. In conformance with the "no detriment" principle, the salary scale of the medical director has been fixed at an appropriate level and in his case the continuation of certain private practice will be allowed. Any future holder of the appointment, however, will be required to give full time to the office.

(viii). A full-time assistant pathologist is to be appointed to the Joint Laboratory.

(ix). The subordinate staff of the existing laboratory will be transferred to the new Joint Laboratory, with such augmentation of the said staff as may be necessary. A part-time secretary to the Joint Committee is to be appointed.

(x). The City medical officer of health has been appointed a member of the Hospital Medical Committee.

Financial Arrangements.

(xi). Such work as is undertaken in the Joint Laboratory for other bodies will be charged for in accordance with a scale to be fixed by the Joint Committee.

(xii). The net annual costs of the Joint Laboratory are to be borne jointly by the Corporation, the Hospital and the Medical Director in proportion to the units of work carried out for each. In the case of the Medical Director, this arrangement applies to such of his private work as is carried out in the laboratory. For the purposes of costing in this connection, a scale has been drawn up assigning appropriate unit values to the various types of specimen likely to be dealt with in the laboratory.

(xiii). The Joint Committee will prepare and submit to the Corporation and to the Hospital Board a quarterly report, and in November of each year the estimate of expenditure for the following financial year.

(xiv). The total estimated cost of the Joint Laboratory for the first year is £3,900. On the basis of the present amounts of work carried out, this cost would be apportioned as follows:—Corporation, 42 per cent.; Hospital, 43 per cent.; Medical Director, 15 per cent.

The above arrangements have been incorporated in a formal agreement which will come into operation on July 1st, 1938.

Maternity and Child Welfare

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Welfare Centres.

There are now 14 maternity and child welfare centres in the City of which the addresses, together with the days and times of sessions, are set out in the accompanying table. In April, 1937, the main Municipal Centre was transferred from temporary quarters in Sibree Hall to a permanent location in the New Combined Clinic building in Gulson Road. On October 28th, 1937, an additional branch centre was inaugurated, namely the Fletchamstead Centre, which is held every Thursday afternoon in the Chapel Hall, Fletchamstead Highway; this has met a real need in the Lime Tree Park area which of late has become a populous one as a result of large-scale housing developments.

Of the 14 centres, the new Combined Clinic in Gulson Road and the Dunsmoor Clinic in Holyhead Road constitute the pivot, while the remaining 12 may be regarded as peripheral or branch centres.

Thirteen of the centres are assisted voluntary centres to which the Department supplies nursing services. Nine of the assisted voluntary centres are attended by medical officers of the Department, while at the remaining four the voluntary committees themselves arrange for medical attendance. The quasi-voluntary centres, despite their constitution, are under full Departmental surveillance and control. The voluntary area committees are very useful in providing general help and social amenities at the centres. The scheme is based on sound principles, and since the basic reorganisation in 1930, independent voluntary agencies have been superseded and a system of complete partnership between municipal and voluntary enterprise has now been long established.

Pre-Natal Clinics.

A system of centralisation obtains in regard to the ante-natal clinic services. Some degree of decentralisation may be necessary at some future time. Meanwhile the present scheme operates successfully with continued co-operation between general medical practitioners, midwives and branch welfare centres on the one hand and the central clinics on the other.

The ante-natal clinics are held at the New Combined Clinic, Gulson Road, and at the Dunsmoor Centre. At the former, four mornings per week are devoted to ante-natal work by the medical superintendent of the Municipal General Hospital in connection with cases booked for beds in the maternity unit of the hospital, and one general consultative ante-natal clinic is held each week by a gynaecologist. At the Dunsmoor Centre, an ante-natal clinic is conducted on one morning per week by the M.C.W. medical officer.

In addition to clinic work, there is a volume of routine ante-natal care carried out by general medical practitioners and especially by the municipal and private midwives.

I.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES IN THE CITY.

Centre.	Day of Meeting.	Hours.
Municipal Welfare Centre, Gulson Road	Each afternoon Monday to Friday	2—4.30 p.m.
"Dunsmoor," 55, Holyhead Road ...	Wednesday and Friday afternoons	2—4.30 p.m.
Leicester Causeway, St. Mark's Parish Room ...	Monday afternoons	2—4.30 p.m.
Lower Stoke, Parish Room, Bray's Lane	Tuesday afternoons ...	2—4.30 p.m.
Holbrooks, Wesleyan Chapel, Lockhurst Lane	Wednesday afternoons ...	2—4.30 p.m.
Stoke Heath, Church Room, Heath Road	Wednesday afternoons ...	2—4.30 p.m.
Longford, Drill Hall, Hurst Road ...	Alternate Thursday afternoons	2—4.30 p.m.
Tile Hill, Memorial Hall ...	Wednesday afternoons ...	2—4.30 p.m.
Walsgrave, Congregational School- room, Woodway Lane ...	Alternate Tuesday afternoons	2—4.30 p.m.
Binley, Parish Rooms, Grange Avenue	Tuesday afternoons ...	2—4.30 p.m.
Radford, Three Spires Avenue ...	Wednesday and Friday afternoons	2—4.30 p.m.
Wheelwrights Lane, St. John's Ambulance Hall	Monday afternoons ...	2—4.30 p.m.
Wyken Parish Room, Wyken Croft	Friday afternoons ...	2—4.30 p.m.
*Fletchamstead Centre, Chapel Hall, Fletchamstead Highway...	Thursday afternoons ...	2—4.30 p.m.

* Inaugurated October 28th, 1937.

II.—PRE-NATAL CLINICS.

Clinic.	Day of Meeting.	Hours.
Municipal Centre, Gulson Road	Every Friday afternoon (Mr. Ballantyne's Clinic)	2—4.30 p.m.
Municipal Centre, Gulson Road	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings ... (Dr. Smith's Clinic)	10 a.m.
"Dunsmoor," 55, Holyhead Road ...	Every Wednesday morning (Dr. Kane's Clinic)	10 a.m.

New Combined Clinic, Gulson Road.

The new Combined Welfare Centre and School Clinic was opened on April 2nd, 1937, and was brought into working commission on April 6th. At the Opening, the then Mayor described the Clinic not inappropriately as a "children's palace of health." The cost of the building was £12,630 and that of the necessary additional equipment £1,200. The land comprising the site had been in the previous ownership of the Corporation for some years.

The maternity and child welfare section is located on the ground floor of the new building and comprises:—(i) Central waiting-hall, (ii) infant welfare centre, (iii) ante-natal clinic, (iv) toddlers' playroom, (v) doctors' and health visitors' rooms, (vi) office and food distribution room, (vii) kitchen, and (viii) cloakrooms and stores. In the clinic grounds a spacious perambulator shelter is provided.

The new building is centrally heated from the boiler-house in the basement. In the scheme of internal decorations, sunshine yellow is the dominant colour. The internal walls are painted, and in the waiting hall, corridors and cloakrooms they are tiled to a height of three feet. The special mural decoration in the toddlers' playroom was carried out by the staff and students of the Coventry Municipal Art School and depicts various children's hobbies and forms of play. The floors of the waiting-hall, food room, kitchen and cloakrooms are of "doloment" patent flooring; those of the other rooms are of jarrah wood; the corridors are floored with brick-red tiles throughout.

The site of the new Combined Clinic is adjacent to and communicates with the precincts of the Municipal General Hospital, and there are many advantages—clinical and economic—attaching to this arrangement.

The Problem of the Toddler.

It is recognised everywhere that a weakness in the maternity and child welfare scheme is the "gap" which occurs in the matter of the medical supervision of young children, between the age of $1\frac{1}{2}$ or 2 years when welfare centre ministrations so often cease, and the age of 5 years, when the school medical service takes over.

It is true that the welfare centres are available for all pre-school children, but in practice it is universally found that many mothers cease to bring their children to the routine welfare session at the centres when the children arrive at the age of $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 years.

To bridge the "gap" above mentioned, there are various possible lines of policy, viz.:—

- (i). Special Toddlers' Clinics.
- (ii). Nursery Schools.
- (iii). Nursery Classes in existing Infants' Schools.
- (iv). A system of routine medical inspection of pre-school children whereby each toddler is thrice medically examined at the ages of 2, 3, and 4 years.
- (v). The extension of the National Health Insurance scheme to take in the dependants of insured persons.

In regard to (ii) and (iii), it is difficult to envisage within the next few years a sufficient provision of nursery schools or nursery classes adequately to cover the "two to fives" in the population. A very successful start has been made locally by the Education Committee in the matter of nursery classes, but as yet the fringe only of this problem has been touched.

Alternative (v) is entirely a matter for Parliament. In the view of many, the inclusion of dependants within the National Health Insurance scheme would tend to close the "gap" to which reference has been made by placing pre-school children under the automatic supervision of the "panel" doctor. But this would not meet the position if in practice the medical practitioners concerned were only to see sick children as is largely the case at present with adult insured persons.

There are important possibilities in alternative (iv). Children would be followed up by reference to birth notification records, and as each child attained the age of 2 years, the parents concerned would be offered an appointment for a routine medical examination by a Departmental medical officer. Similar examination could be arranged when the child reached the ages of 3 and 4 years. The inauguration of such a system would in course of time entail almost daily morning sessions for the routine medical examination of groups of children. To do the work, additional medical and clerical assistance would of course be necessary. A system of this kind, however, would definitely fill the "gap" in regard to the supervision of toddlers.

Turning to (i), it is clear that special toddlers' clinics are of much value, although without undue multiplication they cannot fully meet the position. A special Toddlers' Clinic was inaugurated locally on April 1st, 1938, and meanwhile the position in regard to the further supervision of intermediate age-group children continues to be explored.

Maternal Mortality. Ministry of Health Circular, 1622

Circular 1622, which was issued on May 7th, 1937, drew the attention of local authorities to the Report on Maternal Mortality presented to Parliament by the Minister of Health earlier in the year, and indicated the measures necessary for the efficiency of local maternity services. A full report on Circular 1622 was submitted to the Public Health Committee on June 3rd, 1937, and the recommendations contained therein were duly approved and were later submitted to the Central Department as constituting the local action proposed to be taken pursuant of the Circular in question.

The following are the main points in the Circular and under each heading the measures of local application are mentioned, viz. :

(A). *Team Work in Maternity Services.* It is deemed that this requirement is adequately met locally.

(B). *Consultant Services.* A service is necessary whereby an obstetric consultant is available to general medical practitioners

for difficult midwifery cases in domiciliary practice. In this connection Mr. S. A. Ballantyne, F.R.C.S., was duly appointed by the Department.

(C). *Emergency Midwifery Unit.* It was deemed impracticable to establish a local "emergency unit" at the Municipal General Hospital for the purpose of home visitation.

(D). *Maternity Bed Provision.* Additional maternity bed provision will be made as soon as possible as a part of the general scheme of extensions to the Municipal General Hospital now in contemplation.

(E). *Ante-natal and Post-natal Services.* The recommendations of Circular 1622 were already in operation locally.

(F). *Ancillary Services.* This heading refers to arrangements for milk supplies to expectant and nursing mothers, home-help services, and the provision of dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers. All these points are covered in the local scheme.

(G). *Popular Education.* The Circular emphasised the need for greater public enlightenment, notably as to the vital importance of ante-natal and post-natal care and the dangers attendant upon attempted interference in the course of pregnancy. Activities in regard to popular education in these and allied matters have long been a prominent feature of the work of the Department locally and these are being continued and extended where possible.

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE.

(Deaths of mothers per 1,000 births).

	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928
Coventry	... 3.06	2.66	3.27	3.17	5.4	3.64	6.01	7.03	4.10	4.72
England and Wales	... 3.28	3.65	5.08	5.61	5.69	5.15	5.32	5.36	5.59	5.39

Maternal Mortality.

COVENTRY.—Maternal Deaths; No. of Births Registered; Deaths of Mothers per 1,000 Children Born in the 15 Years, 1923—1937.

	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Puerperal Fever ...	4	2	7	4	3	2	3	7	5	4	2	3	3	1	1
Abortion and Post-abortion Sepsis ...	1	2	—	3	3	—	3	2	3	1	2	4	1	1	2
Puerperal Nephritis ...	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Hæmorrhage of Pregnancy ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
Ectopic Gestation ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Other Accidents of Pregnancy	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Puerperal Hæmorrhage ...	—	1	1	1	—	2	—	1	—	1	2	—	2	—	—
Other Accidents of Childbirth	1	2	1	—	1	3	2	3	4	1	5	1	—	2	1
Puerperal Embolism ...	1	1	1	2	—	1	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Convulsions ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	1	1	—	2	1	—
No. of MATERNAL DEATHS ...	9	9	10	10	10	11	10	17	15	9	14	8	9	8	10
No. of BIRTHS ...	2217	2113	2178	2116	2065	2327	2434	2417	2493	2468	2480	2521	2750	2912	3254
Deaths of Mothers per 1,000 Births ...	4.06	4.25	4.59	4.72	4.84	4.72	4.10	7.03	6.01	3.64	5.4	3.17	3.27	2.7	3.06

Municipal Welfare Centre, Gulson Road.

No. of Sessions held.	No. of New Cases attending.		No. of Children on Register 31st December, 1937		Total No of Attendances. (Mother and Baby count as one).	
	under 1 year	1-5 years.	under 1 year.	1-5 years.	under 1 year.	1-5 years.
240	995	184	716	1109	11,088	4,692

Maternity outfits are provided for those requiring them, at cost price in routine cases and free in necessitous cases.

Assisted Voluntary Centres.

At the year-end there were 13 assisted voluntary centres, viz.:—

Dunsmoor	{	Coventry Voluntary Welfare Centres
Leicester Causeway		
Lower Stoke		
Stoke Heath		
Holbrook Lane		
Longford		
Tile Hill		
Walsgrave		
Binley		
Radford		
Wheelwrights Lane		
Wyken		
Fletchamstead		
		Each conducted by a Voluntary Committee.

The following figures relates to the work of the assisted Voluntary Centres during 1937, viz.:—

Assisted Voluntary Centres.	Total No. of Attendances (Mother and Baby count as one).		Total No. of First Attendances.		Total No. of Children on Register, 31st Dec., 1937.		No of Sessions held.
	Under 1 year	1-5 years	Under 1 year	1-5 years	Under 1 year	1-5 years	
Dunsmoor ..	2417	4549	242	132	242	408	94
Leicester Causeway ..	1168	2219	119	71	119	223	47
Lower Stoke ..	1458	3128	135	59	135	283	48
Holbrooks ..	2660	1754	166	22	150	248	48
Stoke Heath ..	2559	1811	131	28	120	287	48
Longford ..	558	452	59	10	54	108	23
Tile Hill ..	675	349	54	12	47	101	42
Walsgrave ..	232	396	14	7	12	46	23
Binley ..	646	806	33	7	33	80	47
Radford ..	4159	2337	236	32	216	397	75
Wheelwright's Lane ..	2165	434	124	62	103	220	48
Wyken ..	2335	1272	107	63	98	210	48
*Fletchamstead ..	468	216	124	75	124	75	9
Totals ..	21500	19723	1544	580	1458	2686	600

* Inaugurated 28th October, 1937.

Pre-Natal Services.

(i.) Ante-Natal Clinic, Gulson Road.

Sessions	...	...	...	...	50
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	2,191
Average attendance per session	...	...	...	...	43
No. of new cases attending	...	...	...	...	590

(ii.) Municipal Hospital, Ante-natal Clinic, Gulson Road.

Sessions	...	...	...	...	184
Total Attendances	...	...	...	...	5,901
Average attendance per session	...	...	...	...	32
No. of new cases attending	...	...	...	...	923

(iii.) Ante-Natal Clinic, Dunsmoor (Coventry Voluntary Welfare Centres).

Sessions	...	...	...	...	23
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	299
Average attendance per session	...	...	...	...	13
No. of new cases attending	...	...	...	...	105

Service of "Home Helps."

During the year, 172 home helps have been supplied and in all cases they have been much appreciated. In 10 necessitous cases the home helps were supplied free. In the remaining cases, although all arrangements were made by the Department, the patients themselves paid the home helps supplied. Certain of the applications for helps are from other than maternity cases as, for example, in ordinary illness of a mother or where an expectant mother is ill and there is a family of young children to care for in the house.

Maternity Beds.

The following figures relate to maternity cases admitted under the maternity and child welfare scheme to the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital and to the Gulson Road Municipal Hospital during 1937. There were 180 cases waiting at the beginning of the year, and 852 cases were booked during the year. Of the 790 cases actually admitted, 77 went to the voluntary hospital and 713 to the municipal hospital. This compares with a figure of 728 cases admitted to hospital for confinement under the scheme during the previous year. There has been a progressive increase year by year in the hospitalization of maternity cases, and it is interesting to speculate as to whether this trend will be affected materially by the domiciliary service of municipal midwives inaugurated in the City on August 1st, 1937, under the Midwives Act, 1936.

The total numbers of maternity cases confined in local hospitals or nursing-homes during the year were:—Gulson Road Municipal Hospital, 735; Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital, 258; Nursing Homes, 220.

Dental Treatment.

Dental treatment for young children (3—5 years) has been continued at the School Clinic by permission of the Education Committee. In this connection 101 children were referred from the Infant Welfare Centres and duly treated by the school dental surgeons.

The following particulars relate to the 101 children referred for dental treatment, *viz.* :—

Actually treated	...	...	...	84
Treatment completed	...	...	...	66
Attendances...	...	...	...	126
Temporary fillings	...	...	...	16
Extractions	...	...	...	120
Examination and advice only	...	...	...	15
Refused treatment	...	...	...	2

One mother had a full denture, the cost being defrayed by the Public Health Committee.

At the year-end a scheme for providing more comprehensive facilities for the dental treatment of toddlers and expectant mothers was under consideration and it is projected to inaugurate the scheme during 1938.

Supply of Dried Milk

During 1937, 254 new cases have been investigated and ascertained as eligible for free dried milk. The figures comprise 47 expectant mothers, 86 nursing mothers, and 121 infants. The amounts of dried milk supplied at the Centres were :—(a) Sold at full cost, 12,668 lbs.; (b) sold at half-cost, 170 lbs.; (c) supplied free, 4,741 lbs.

Orthopædic Treatment.

During the year, 41 cases were ascertained among the children attending the welfare centre, *viz.* :— Genu valgum, 5; genu varum, 5; talipes, 5; eversion, 3; flat foot, 3; deformity of arm or leg, 8; others, 12.

Home Visiting.

First visits by the health visitors to mothers numbered 3,154, as compared with 2,913 in the previous year. These visits are timed to take place after the doctor or midwife has ceased to attend.

Re visits.

The number of re-visits to children up to one year of age was 9,835 and 14,130 visits were made in respect of children between the ages of 1 and 5 years.

Births Visited.

Notified births visited during the year numbered 3,154. Of these, 2,076 were first babies. Infants found to be breast-fed from birth numbered 2,352.

Transferred Births.

The names and addresses of 180 infants and young children who left the City were notified to the medical officers of health of the areas of destination, and 363 were notified as coming to live in the City.

Notification of Births Act.

During the year, 3,299 notifications of live births were received, and still-births numbered 138.

Supervision of Midwives. (*See separate section dealing with Operation of Midwives Act, 1936.*)

During the year under review, 78 midwives, 4 residing outside the City, notified their intention to practise. Of the 74 resident in the City, 48 did district work, 7 undertook monthly nursing only, 8 worked in institutions, and 11 did not practise. Nine midwives retired during the year.

The figures show that 2,393 cases have been attended by midwives during the year; of these 157 occurred outside the City and 2,236 took place within the City. Of the latter number, 791 were doctors' cases where a midwife was also in attendance, and 1,445 were attended by midwives alone.

Medical Assistance.

Medical aid forms sent in by midwives during the year totalled 665. The reasons for sending for medical help were stated as under, viz. :—

I. During Pregnancy :—Albuminuria, 27; ante-partum haemorrhage, 25; eclampsia, 1; oedema, 6; persistent vomiting, 6; threatened abortion, 6; varicose veins, 3; general illness, 15.

II. During Labour or Lying-in :—Retained placenta, 21; abnormal presentation, 26; abortion, 10; torn perinæum, 155; obstructed labour, 42; post-partum haemorrhage, 11; prolonged labour, 85; placenta prævia, 4; prolapse of cord, 2; rise of temperature, 23; uterine inertia, 10; subinvolution of uterus, 4; twin birth, 4; general illness, 18; other causes, 22.

III. For the Child :—Asphyxia, 7; feebleness, 10; inflammation of eyes, 72; phimosis, 5; prematurity, 16; spina bifida, 5; other deformities, 13; tongue-tie, 1; other causes, 10.

Convalescent Home Treatment for Mothers.

During the year, 7 mothers were sent for an appropriate period to a sea-side convalescent home and were able to take their infants with them.

In September, 1937, Lord Iliffe presented to the City his one-time residence, Allesley Hall. The City Council at the year-end decided to utilize the Hall as a Convalescent Home to be conducted in connection with the Municipal General Hospital. In the Home, two beds and two cots are to be reserved for cases referred by the Maternity and Child Welfare Section and this will allow convalescent treatment for a larger number of nursing mothers than hitherto. The Convalescent Home will be opened in mid-1938.

Compensation to Midwives for Loss of Cases.

In 18 instances midwives were compensated for loss of booked cases in accordance with the arrangements in force. In each case one guinea was awarded.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Notified	Cases		Vision Impaired	Vision Un-impaired	Still under Treatment	Total Blindness	Deaths					
	Treated											
	At Home	In Hospital										
18	17	1	0	17	1	0	0					

Seventy-two medical aid notices were received from midwives intimating the summons of a doctor to attend to "watery discharges" from the eyes of infants. All these cases were visited immediately by the health visitors concerned, and advice was given as to the faithful execution of the doctors' orders. The cases were followed up until clear.

Puerperal Fever.

Fifteen cases were notified during the year, of which 4 were hospital cases, 6 doctors' cases where a midwife was acting as nurse, 3 midwives' cases where a doctor was called in, and 2 abortions. Eleven cases were treated in the Gulson Road Municipal Hospital, 2 in the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital and 2 at home. Of the 15 cases, 12 had had recognised antenatal supervision.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Twenty-nine cases were notified during the year. Seven were midwives' cases where a doctor was called-in, 7 were doctors' cases and 15 occurred in hospital practice. Of the 29 cases, 19 were treated in the Gulson Road Municipal Hospital, 1 in the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital and 9 were nursed at home. All but 2 cases had had recognised ante-natal supervision.

Children Acts, 1908, and 1932.

FIGURES FOR THE YEAR 1937.

Notifications :—

(i) Number of foster parents on the register :—				
(a) at the beginning of the year	59			
(b) at the end of the year	42			
(ii) Number of children on the register :—				
(a) at the beginning of the year	63			
(b) at the end of the year	45			
New cases during the year	85			
Total cases for 1937	143			
Children legally adopted	7			
Children returned to their parents	79			
Children transferred to other local Authorities ...	5			
Children admitted to the National Adoption Society	1			
Children who have attained the age of nine years ...	6			
Total cases removed from Register	98			

All the nurse children are kept under strict supervision by frequent visits to the homes. The foster-mothers also co-operate with the staff by attending the welfare centres and many call at the office for advice when difficulties arise. The staff also assists suitable persons to adopt children.

Registration of Nursing Homes.

Under the provisions of Section 187 of the Public Health Act, 1936, there were registered in the City as at 31st December, 1937 :—

Maternity Homes	4
Maternity and General Nursing Homes ...	2
Nursing Homes	1
	—
	7

Classification of Visits made by Health Visitors during 1937.

Visits to Notified Births	...	...	...	3,154
Re-visits to Infants under 12 months			...	9,835
Re-visits to Children 1 to 5 years	...		...	14,130
Visits under the Children Acts	...		...	361
Inspections of new homes under the Children Acts	...	...	...	26
Ante-natal Visits	First	...	...	715
	Subsequent	...	...	144
Stillbirths enquired into	...	...	...	117
Infant deaths enquired into	...	...	...	6
Visits to tuberculosis patients	...	...	...	1,709
Visits to other infectious diseases	...	...	...	256
Visits to midwives...	...	...	...	280
Visits to mental defectives	...	...	...	446
Visits to nursing homes	...	...	...	35
Visits to home-helps	...	...	...	33
Special visits	...	...	...	106
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	50
				—
				31,403
				—
Health Visitors' sessions at the welfare centres			...	1,792
Diphtheria contacts—swabs taken	...	...	...	452

Operation of Midwives Act, 1936

Local Operation of the Midwives Act, 1936.

The local Proposals under the Midwives Act, 1936, were duly submitted to the Minister of Health on January 26th, 1937, and were later approved by the Central Department. The Scheme was made after necessary consultation with the two voluntary organizations which employ domiciliary midwives in the City area, the Coventry division of the British Medical Association and the local organization of midwives.

The Scheme came into operation on August 1st, 1937, and the working arrangements are as under :—

I.—Arrangements with Voluntary Organizations.

The two voluntary associations concerned are the Tile Hill, Westwood and District Nursing Association and the Whitley and Binley District Nursing Association. Each employs one full-time nurse-midwife. The Whitley and Binley Association employed two full-time nurse-midwives at the time the original Scheme was drawn, but in early 1938 it was necessary to reduce to one nurse-midwife. The Scheme was amended accordingly with the approval of the Central Department.

The following are the current arrangements with the above-named Associations, *viz.* :—

- (1) The Associations conduct domiciliary midwifery practice in their respective areas as defined on the relevant maps.
- (2) The services conducted by the Associations are subject to the supervision of the City Medical Officer of Health and his appropriate staff.
- (3) The conditions of service of the two full-time nurse-midwives employed by the Associations are made comparable to those applying to the full-time midwives employed by the Corporation. To assist the Associations in this connection the Council contributes £30 per annum to each (in addition to pre-existing contributions).

II.—Municipal Midwives.

The Council has appointed 21 full-time municipal midwives who commenced duty on August 1st, 1937. The municipal midwives have been suitably located and housed in order to cover the City area other than the small portions allotted to the voluntary associations mentioned under heading I. above.

The salaries of the municipal midwives are on the same scale as those of the departmental health visitors, namely £190—£10—£260 per annum, together with travelling expenses and £10 per annum uniform allowance. Uniform clothing was supplied in the first instance. Full working equipment is supplied and standard bags are in use. An annual vacation of three weeks is allowed.

Telephones are installed at the houses of all municipal midwives; the rental is paid by the Corporation and each midwife is allowed one hundred local calls per quarter.

Arrangements will be made for the midwives to attend refresher courses of instruction as necessary.

III.—Supervision of Midwives.

On August 1st, 1937, a full-time assistant medical officer for maternity and child welfare (Dr. Winifred A. Kane) was appointed to the Department in place of the part-time medical officer previously employed. Dr. Kane was duly appointed medical supervisor of midwives, and the superintendent health visitor (Miss L. Cureton) was appointed non-medical supervisor.

IV.—Fees charged for Midwives Services.

The following scale of charges is in operation in respect of the services of the municipal midwives, viz. :—

(a) For attendance as midwives :—

50/- (inclusive) per case for first confinements (primiparæ).

48/- (inclusive) per case for subsequent confinements (multiparæ).

(b) For attendance as maternity nurses :—

22/6d. per week in each case.

The whole or part of the above fees is remitted in necessitous cases.

Progress of the Scheme.

The scheme is working smoothly, and during the period 1st August to 31st December, 1937, the municipal midwives conducted 1,023 confinements, and in addition attended as maternity nurses in 205 cases.

The fees recovered during this period totalled £1,037 17s. od.

Surrender of Certificates by Private Midwives.

During the year under review, nine private midwives voluntarily surrendered their certificates in accordance with Section 5 of the Midwives Act, 1936, and in this connection the total of the sums paid in compensation was £3,130 1s. 6d.

Slum Clearance and Re-housing

Overcrowding

SLUM CLEARANCE.

The following table summarizes the position on December 31st, 1937, in connection with current slum clearance measures in the City.

(A) CLEARANCE AREAS.

Areas in respect of which Action already taken	No. of Houses in Area	Date Order Confirmed by Minister	No. of Houses Demolished	No. of Houses to be Demolished
Much Park Street (No. 1) ...	45	28th June, 1932	45	..
St. John Street (No. 2) ...	23	,, ,	23	..
Chauntry (No. 3) ...	147	23rd May, 1934	147	..
Cox Street (No. 4) ...	77	27th June, 1935	72	5
Well Street (No. 5) ...	19	,, ,	19	..
Whitefriars Street (No. 6) ...	12	,, ,	12	..
Munition Cottages (No. 7)	230*	,, ,	206	24
Colony Cottages (Nos. 8 & 9)	147†	,, ,	147	..
Whitefriars Lane (No. 10) ...	15	24th Aug., 1936	6	9
Spon End (No. 11) ...	28	,, ,	4	19
Monk's Park Cottages (No. 12)	336	,, ,	22	314
Cow Lane (No. 13) ...	34	,, ,	34	..
Leicester Street (No. 14)	8	,, ,	8	..
Brewery Street (No. 15) ...	14	,, ,	14	..
Swanswell Terrace (No. 16)	38	,, ,	..	38
Bayley Lane (No. 17) ...	3	,, ,	..	3

*Appeal by one owner to High Court. Dismissed 16th December, 1935.

†89 of these were demolished voluntarily before the time of the Order.

(B) INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.

No. of Closing or Demolition Orders made or Undertakings accepted	...	...	133
No. of dwellings closed or demolished	...	...	115
No. of dwellings to be closed or demolished	...	...	18

Progress during 1937.

Towards the end of the year, the following clearance areas, together comprising 269 unfit houses, were duly represented. These areas will be dealt with during 1938.

Area.		No. of Houses.	No. of Persons in occupation.
Spon Street (No. 18)	...	... 6	14
Little Park Street (No. 19)		... 24	90
White Friars Lane (No. 20)		... 28	90
Rood Lane (No. 21)	...	... 39	122
Sherbourne Street (No. 22)		... 94	293
West Orchard (No. 23)	...	... 7	23
The Hollows (No. 24)	...	... 6	18
Pinley and Aldermoor (No. 25)		... 9	45
" "	(No. 26)	... 3	8
" "	(No. 27)	... 4	14
" "	(No. 28)	... 26	92
" "	(No. 29)	... 6	17
" "	(No. 30)	... 17	51
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		269	877
		<hr/>	<hr/>

Demolitions during 1937.

(a) In Clearance Areas.—During the year, 211 houses in clearance areas were actually demolished.

(b) By Individual Unfit House Procedure.—During the year, Demolition Orders were made in respect of 19 individual unfit houses; and of the latter, 3 had been actually demolished at the year-end. The total number of individual unfit houses actually demolished during 1937 was 10.

(c) Other Demolitions.—In addition to houses demolished pursuant of formal action under the Housing Acts, 52 unfit houses were demolished for various other reasons during the year.

Closure of Unfit Tenements.

By means of Closing Orders, 2 unfit tenements were closed during the year.

Reconditioning and Repair of Unfit Houses.

During the year under review, 602 houses were rendered fit for human habitation as a result of informal action, and of these 225 were extensively reconditioned.

SLUM CLEARANCE REHOUSING.

The accompanying table shows the position at the year-end in regard to slum-clearance rehousing operations.

<i>Re-housing Estates already provided or for which schemes in hand.</i>	<i>No. of houses erected or to be erected.</i>	<i>No. of houses completed.</i>	<i>Clearance Areas from which occupant families removed or to be removed.</i>
1934 Portion of Programme and before	Stoke Aldermoor ..	250	250
			Much Park Street (No. 1) St. John Street (No. 2) Chauntry (No. 3)
1935 Portion of Programme	Harnall Lane .. Crabmill Lane .. Bell Green .. Canley ..	10 96 206 100	10 96 206 100
			Cox Street (No. 4) Well Street (No. 5) Whitefriars Street (No. 6) Munition Cottages (No. 7) Colony Cottages (Nos. 8 and 9)
1936 Portion of Programme	Radford Allotments Sadler Road .. Bell Green .. Canley ..	112 170 34 72	32 14 34 40
			Whitefriars Lane (No. 10) Spon End (No. 11) Monks Park Cottages (No. 12) Cow Lane (No. 13) Leicester Street (No. 14) Brewery Street (No. 15) Swanswell Terrace (No. 16) Bayley Lane (No. 17)
1987 Portion of Programme	Pinley	170	—
			Spon Street (No. 18) Little Park Street (No. 19) Whitefriars Lane (No. 20) Rood Lane (No. 21) Sherbourne Street (No. 22) West Orchard (No. 23) The Hollows (No. 24). Pinley and Aldermoor (Nos. 26-30)

Prevention of Vermin Infestation.

The practice was again continued during 1937 of subjecting the furniture and effects (with the exception of bedding, etc., which is treated by steam disinfection) of all families removed from condemned to new houses, to fumigation with hydrocyanic acid gas. Full details as to local arrangements in this connection appeared in the 1934 Annual Report. The work of fumigation is done by a private contractor on payment by the Corporation.

Housing Statistics Year, 1937.

The following information is given in the form required by the Ministry of Health, *viz.* :—

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 2,450
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 4,189

(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	1,339
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	2,539		
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	142
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	947

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	602
---	-----	-----	-----	-----

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—				
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—				
(a) By owners	...	...	...	Nil.
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	Nil.

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—							
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	25

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	19
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	10

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	3
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil.

The City Engineer kindly gives the following information concerning new houses :—

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total 	4,510
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(1) By the Local Authority 	208
(2) By other bodies or persons 	Nil.
(c) Under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1933 	6

PLANS APPROVED.

Year ending 30th Nov.	Houses.	Factories and Workshops	Alterations and Additions.	Miscellan's	Public Buildings.	Churches.	Chapels.	Schools.	Streets.	Totals.
1909	1030	40	54	111	1	1	0	2	4	1243
1910	1205	34	62	141	2	0	1	2	30	1477
1911	1386	40	62	147	8	0	0	2	5	1650
1912	622	69	102	140	3	0	0	3	16	955
1913	1236	75	98	113	7	0	0	1	15	1545
1914	1189	43	91	118	2	1	0	4	3	1451
1915	510	77	46	119	2	2	0	0	6	762
1916	163	75	55	86	1	0	0	0	2	382
1917	287	69	81	46	3	0	0	0	8	447
1918	71	41	27	50	0	0	0	0	0	189
1919	126	63	54	272	2	0	0	0	1	518
1920	686	55	55	308	0	0	0	0	2	1106
1921	36	20	84	122	0	0	0	6	0	218
1922	127	27	51	141	1	0	1	0	1	349
1923	408	39	42	121	0	1	0	1	3	615
1924	539	23	32	246	0	0	0	2	2	844
1925	1159	83	49	203	1	0	0	1	3	1449
1926	1037	21	61	205	0	0	0	0	40	1364
1927	869	23	90	281	0	2	1	4	7	1277
1928	1228	31	112	217	6	1	1	0	15	1611
1929	1479	27	116	239	2	0	0	0	23	1886
1930	1743	18	114	265	3	2	0	0	33	2178
1931	1408	7	94	216	1	0	0	0	10	1736
1932	882	15	110	154	2	3	2	1	7	1176
1933	2591	14	108	169	1	1	1	0	34	2919
1934	3565	32	105	172	2	0	0	0	47	3923
1935	4690	19	146	190	1	1	0	0	146	5193
1936	4929	29	163	319	8	0	1	3	90	5542
1937	*5354	23	200	494	5	0	1	1	37	6115

BUILDINGS COMPLETED.

1909	1169	32	28	49	5	0	0	1	14	1298
1910	959	45	20	61	2	0	0	0	13	1100
1911	1211	39	46	66	4	1	0	4	19	1890
1912	894	67	53	99	2	0	0	0	5	1120
1913	838	67	60	80	12	0	0	4	10	1071
1914	927	32	56	82	1	2	0	1	14	1115
1915	785	46	50	85	2	0	0	1	7	976
1916	418	49	27	26	2	1	0	1	8	532
1917	176	62	24	19	1	0	0	0	3	285
1918	251	29	9	5	0	0	0	0	0	294
1919	125	42	21	83	1	0	0	0	0	272
1920	277	55	27	103	0	0	0	0	6	468
1921	367	22	11	52	0	0	0	6	9	467
1922	223	11	20	85	1	0	0	1	7	348
1923	122	15	25	131	0	0	1	0	5	299
1924	324	16	20	206	0	0	2	1	4	573
1925	536	13	31	134	0	1	0	1	30	746
1926	877	20	51	176	0	0	0	1	21	1146
1927	1323	18	65	247	0	0	0	0	7	1665
1928	1128	25	98	253	4	0	2	3	23	1536
1929	1611	25	111	252	2	1	1	0	16	2019
1930	1312	15	110	244	1	0	0	0	48	1730
1931	1095	9	88	137	2	2	0	1	13	1347
1932	1362	9	91	156	5	1	0	0	11	1635
1933	1559	15	112	161	2	1	0	1	16	1867
1934	2211	14	87	163	1	1	0	0	42	2519
1935	2006	14	123	160	2	1	0	1	44	4266
1936	3841	16	143	220	1	0	0	1	43	5057
1937	+4510	20	151	325	3	2	2	1	43	

* The total of 5354 houses for which plans have been approved comprises:—

462 houses for Private Enterprise.

702 " " the Corporation Housing Schemes.

10 " " Corporation Firemen.

5354

+ The total of 4510 houses completed comprises:—

4160 houses for Private Enterprise.

142 " " the Corporation Housing Schemes.

Re-housing Schemes in connection with the Coventry Clearance Orders under the Housing Act, 1930.

OVERCROWDING.

A full account of the overcrowding survey of Coventry and of the resultant findings was given in the 1936 Report (pages 96-99). During the year under review, the work of supplying lists of "permitted numbers" to property-owners and agents has been continued. For purposes of local application, it is deemed that houses of £15 annual rateable value or less come within the "working-class" category. A considerable number of new houses in this category are erected each year and thus the ascertainment of measurements and of "permitted numbers" in connection with the overcrowding provisions of the Housing Act, 1936, is in some degree a continuous process. During the year 2,014 further houses were duly measured and recorded; of these 14 were ascertained to be overcrowded.

The local position at the year-end in the matter of overcrowding (Part IV., Housing Act, 1936) was as under :—

(a) (i)	Number of houses overcrowded	...	...	650
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein		...	660
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein		...	4,749
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	14
(c) (i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	25
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases...			157
(d)	Number of dwelling houses which are known to have again become overcrowded following previous abatement	...	...	Nil

Abatement of Overcrowding.

The matter of housing provision in connection with the abatement of overcrowding was dealt with in the 1936 Report. The Council decided in the first instance to provide 200 special new houses—many of "outsize" pattern—for the accommodation of the largest of the local overcrowded families. The provision of these houses is in the hands of the Housing Committee and final plans were prepared during the year under review. When once these 200 special houses are available and the worst cases have been rehoused in them, an active process of "filtration" will thereby be initiated and this to a large extent will allow the other cases to be dealt with by a system of house exchanges. Meanwhile during the year, 25 cases of overcrowding have been abated. Of this number, 23 families were rehoused in Corporation dwellings and 2 families were able to secure suitable accommodation under private ownership.

Sanitary Circumstances

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

BY W. R. MARTIN, CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

The routine work of the sanitary inspectors is set out under the various headings and in the appropriate tables.

Systematic Inspection and Reconditioning of Dwelling Houses.

This work has been continued and no less than 9,055 improvements were effected during the year. Much of the reconditioning work was of a drastic character and included the provision of sculleries, larders and the introduction of indoor water supplies. Owners of property and builders who are contemplating the improvement of houses which do not conform to the requirements of the Housing Acts, frequently seek the advice of the inspectors before commencing their schemes of alteration, and this co-operation has had very beneficial results.

Lodgings for Working Men.

The large influx of workers into the City is having a marked effect upon a class of house which, although not coming within the definition of "Common Lodging House," is frequently used as a hostel. There is a growing tendency to bring into use old de-licensed premises for this purpose and whilst such premises probably do not fall within the new definition of "Common Lodging Houses," they need considerable supervision in order to ensure that the sanitary conditions are maintained at a reasonable standard.

Sowe Valley Sewer.

The main trunk sewer which commences on the extreme northern boundary of the City and traverses the course of the River Sowe through the whole of the added area on the east side, was officially inaugurated on 14th October, 1937. It is gratifying to record that considerable progress has since been made with regard to the abolition of small sewage works—at one time privately owned—which formerly dealt with sewage from new estates. At the close of the year under review, the abolition of these small sewage works was rapidly proceeding and it is hoped that the early months of the current year will see the completion of this work.

A task of some magnitude will face the Department as a result of the provision of the Sowe Valley Sewer, namely, that of bringing about the abolition of cesspools and the provision of modern drainage systems in the added areas. The need for this work is very pressing but much of it will of necessity have to remain in abeyance pending the provision of branch sewers to the districts concerned.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No. of houses found during the year to be infested :—

(a) Corporation-owned houses	...	...	46
(b) Other houses	...	...	114
		Total	160

No. of houses disinfested :—

(a) Corporation-owned houses	...	...	46
(b) Other houses	...	...	112
		Total	158

Methods employed for disinfecting Houses.

The method to be adopted in the work of disinfection depend largely upon the circumstances of each case. If the infestation is due to dirty and negligent habits, a notice is served upon the occupier requiring that effectual measures be taken to eradicate the vermin. Usually it is necessary to treat the bedsteads and furniture with paraffin or a suitable insecticide, and to burn infested mattresses and upholstery. In many cases, walls and ceilings are found to be badly infested due to the vermin having penetrated through defective plaster, studded partitions of bedrooms, defective or loose skirting-boarding, match-boarding, architraves, etc. In such cases, owners are called upon to carry out necessary repairs and employees of the Public Health Department visit for the purpose of spraying with an insecticide while the work is in progress; where extensive cracks are present in the walls, a blow-lamp is employed.

The above applies to individual routine cases of infestation. In connection with slum clearance removals, all furniture and effects are fumigated with HCM gas during removal to the new Council houses, save that bedding is treated in the steam disinfector. This large-scale fumigation is carried out under contract by a private specialist firm.

Every effort is made by way of supervision and education of transferred tenants with a view to the prevention of infestation or re-infestation after cleansing. This work is done partly by the departmental housing inspector and partly by the women estates supervisor employed by the Housing Department.

Open-Air Swimming Pools.

Samples of the water were taken from the two privately-owned open-air swimming pools during the year and were submitted for bacteriological examination, with satisfactory results.

The filtration and chlorination plants at both pools are maintained in an efficient manner under proper supervision. Dressing rooms and sanitary conveniences were found upon inspection to be satisfactory.

Rivers and Streams.

Complaints were received during the year from residents in the vicinity of the Hall Brook, a tributary of the River Sowe, concerning offensive odours arising from the fouling of this stream. Investigations proved that the pollution was due to the discharge of effluent from septic tanks in an adjoining district. The appropriate Local Authority was notified of the conditions existing and immediate steps were taken to abate the nuisance. The septic tanks in question were provided to deal temporarily with the drainage of houses in an area which was rapidly developed, no suitable means of sewage disposal being available. Now that the new Sowe Valley sewer has been brought into use, it is anticipated that in the near future the drainage from this area will be connected therewith.

The River Sherbourne, which traverses the City from east to west, is periodically cleansed under the direction of the City Engineer.

Polluted Private Wells.

During the year, the water supply at five houses situate in the rural portions of the City has been found to be unsatisfactory. The supply was obtained from four private shallow wells. Samples of the water were obtained and submitted to the Analyst who certified that the water in each case was unfit for domestic purposes. Fortunately, however, the town water main was available within a reasonable distance and following the service of notices, the respective owners arranged for town water to be laid on and the polluted wells were subsequently closed.

Results of Analyses expressed in parts per 100,000.

SHUSTOKE.

Date of Receipt of Sample.	Free and Saline Ammonia.	Organic Ammonia.	Chlorine in Chlorides.	Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites.	Oxygen absorbed in Four Hours at 80° F.	Total Solid Matter.	Hardness.			Remarks.
							Tempo- rary.	Perma- nent.	Total.	
1937.										
Jan. 11	Nil.	0.003	3.0	0.05	0.053	36.0	12.0	10.0	22.0	Satisfactory
Feb. 8	0.001	0.003	3.0	0.05	0.059	35.0	12.0	9.0	21.0	Do.
Mar. 8	Nil.	0.002	2.2	Trace.	0.049	24.0	8.0	7.0	15.0	Do.
April 12	Nil.	0.004	1.6	Trace.	0.092	18.0	5.0	6.0	11.0	Do.
May 10	0.002	0.006	2.1	Trace.	0.059	19.0	6.0	6.0	12.0	Do.
June 14	0.001	0.005	2.5	Trace.	0.070	29.0	10.0	8.0	18.0	Do.
July 12	0.001	0.006	2.6	Trace.	0.050	28.0	9.0	8.0	17.0	Do.
Aug. 9	0.001	0.005	2.7	Trace.	0.043	29.0	9.0	7.0	16.0	Do.
Sept. 13	0.001	0.006	2.8	Trace.	0.048	28.0	9.0	8.0	17.0	Do.
Oct. 11	0.002	0.004	2.8	Trace	0.054	31.0	9.0	9.0	18.0	Do.
Nov. 8	0.001	0.005	2.7	0.10	0.052	28.0	9.0	7.0	16.0	Do.
Dec. 16	0.001	0.006	2.3	0.05	0.085	23.0	7.0	7.0	14.0	Do.

SPON END.

Date of receipt of sample.	Free and Saline Ammonia.	Organic Ammonia.	Chlorine in Chlorides.	Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites.	Oxygen absorbed in Four Hours at 80° F.	Total Solid Matter.	Hardness.			Remarks.
							Temporary.	Perma- nent.	Total.	
1937.										
Jan. 13	Nil.	0.001	1.8	0.35	0.013	42.0	18.0	12.0	30.0	Satisfactory
Feb. 10	Nil.	0.001	1.8	0.35	0.011	42.0	18.0	13.0	31.0	Do.
Mar. 10	Nil.	Nil.	1.8	0.35	0.004	42.0	19.0	13.0	32.0	Do.
April 14	Nil.	0.001	1.8	0.35	0.015	43.0	19.0	13.0	32.0	Do.
May 11	Nil.	Nil.	1.9	0.25	0.004	43.0	18.0	13.0	31.0	Do.
June 16	Nil.	0.001	1.8	0.35	0.006	42.0	18.0	13.0	31.0	Do.
July 14	Nil.	0.001	1.9	0.35	0.006	43.0	18.0	13.0	31.0	Do.
Aug. 11	Nil.	Nil.	1.8	0.35	0.002	41.0	18.0	13.0	31.0	Do.
Sept. 15	Nil.	0.001	1.9	0.30	0.012	43.0	18.0	13.0	31.0	Do.
Oct. 13	0.001	0.001	1.8	0.35	0.012	42.0	18.0	13.0	31.0	Do.
Nov. 10	Nil.	0.001	1.8	0.40	0.011	42.0	18.0	13.0	31.0	Satisfactory*
Dec. 15	Nil.	0.001	1.8	0.40	0.008	42.0	19.0	12.0	31.0	Satisfactory

* Note.—The nitrate figure is on the border line of being "suspicious." Over 0.40 is suspicious.

WHITLEY.

Whitley Water after chlorine treatment.

1937.	n. 13	Nil.	0.001	4.6	0.80	0.014	69.0	27.0	26.0	53.0	Free Chlorine	nil	Satisfactory
Feb. 10	Nil.	Nil.	4.5	0.80	0.015	69.0	27.0	26.0	53.0	Do.	"	"	"
Mar. 10	Nil.	0.001	4.6	0.75	0.011	69.0	26.0	26.0	52.0	Do.	"	"	"
April 14	Nil.	0.001	4.6	0.80	0.015	70.0	25.0	27.0	52.0	Do.	"	"	"
May 11	Nil.	0.001	4.7	0.80	0.003	70.0	25.0	27.0	52.0	Do.	"	"	"
June 16	Nil.	0.001	4.6	0.80	0.015	70.0	25.0	27.0	52.0	Do.	"	"	"
July 14	Nil.	0.001	4.6	0.80	0.010	70.0	26.0	26.0	52.0	Do.	"	"	"
Aug. 11	Nil.	Nil.	4.6	0.80	0.006	71.0	28.0	26.0	54.0	Do.	"	"	"
Sept. 15	Nil.	0.001	4.7	0.80	0.015	71.0	27.0	26.0	53.0	Do.	"	"	"
Oct. 13	Nil.	Nil.	4.6	0.80	0.012	71.0	26.0	26.0	52.0	Do.	"	"	"
Nov. 10	Nil.	0.001	4.5	0.80	0.016	70.0	26.0	26.0	52.0	Do.	"	"	"
Dec. 15	Nil.	0.002	4.5	0.80	0.011	70.0	26.0	26.0	52.0	Do.	"	"	"

BROWNSHILL GREEN.

1937.	n. 11	Nil.	0.002	1.6	0.80	0.006	29.0	15.0	6.0	21.0	Satisfactory
b. 8	0.001	0.001	1.6	0.35	0.008	29.0	15.0	6.0	21.0	Do.	
Mar. 8	Nil.	Nil.	1.5	0.25	0.012	28.0	14.0	7.0	21.0	Do.	
April 12	Nil.	0.001	1.6	0.30	0.014	28.0	14.0	7.0	21.0	Do.	
May 10	0.001	0.002	1.6	0.25	0.007	29.0	15.0	7.0	22.0	Do.	
June 14	0.001	0.001	1.6	0.25	0.006	28.0	15.0	7.0	22.0	Do.	
July 12	0.001	0.001	1.6	0.30	0.006	29.0	15.0	7.0	22.0	Do.	
Aug. 9	Nil.	0.001	1.6	0.25	0.001	28.0	14.0	7.0	21.0	Do.	
Sept. 13	Nil.	0.001	1.6	0.30	0.007	28.0	14.0	7.0	21.0	Do.	
Oct. 11	Nil.	0.001	1.6	0.35	0.006	29.0	14.0	7.0	21.0	Do.	
Nov. 8	Nil.	0.001	1.6	0.40	0.010	29.0	14.0	7.0	21.0	Satisfactory*	
Dec. 16	Nil.	0.002	1.5	0.35	0.008	28.0	14.0	7.0	21.0	Satisfactory	

* Note.—The nitrate figure is on the border line of being "suspicious." Over 0.40 is suspicious.

WATERY LANE.

Date of Receipt of Sample.	Free and Saline Ammonia	Organic Ammonia	Chlorine in Chlorides	Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites.	Oxygen absorbed in Four Hours at 80° F.	Total Solid Matter.	Hardness.			Remarks.
							Temporary.	Perma- nent.	Total.	
1937										
Jan. 11	Nil.	0.002	1.9	0.15	0.013	42.0	19.0	8.0	27.0	Satisfactory
Feb. 8	0.001	0.001	2.0	0.15	0.008	41.0	19.0	8.0	27.0	Do.
Mar. 8	Nil.	Nil.	1.9	0.10	0.010	41.0	19.0	8.0	27.0	Do.
April 12	0.001	0.001	1.9	0.15	0.019	42.0	20.0	8.0	28.0	Do.
May 10	0.001	0.001	1.9	0.10	0.004	40.0	20.0	7.0	27.0	Do.
June 14	0.001	0.001	1.9	0.15	0.008	40.0	19.0	8.0	27.0	Do.
July 12	0.001	0.001	2.0	0.15	0.006	40.0	18.0	9.0	27.0	Do.
Aug. 9	0.001	0.002	2.0	0.15	0.002	43.0	19.0	9.0	28.0	Do.
Sept. 13	0.001	0.001	2.1	0.15	0.005	42.0	18.0	9.0	27.0	Do.
Oct. 11	0.001	0.001	2.0	0.20	0.004	41.0	18.0	9.0	27.0	Do.
Nov. 8	0.002	0.002	2.0	0.28	0.009	40.0	18.0	9.0	27.0	Do.
Dec. 16	0.002	0.002	1.9	0.15	0.008	42.0	19.0	9.0	28.0	Do.

MOUNT NOD.

1937										
Jan. 13	Nil.	0.001	1.2	0.15	0.009	27.0	15.0	6.0	21.0	Satisfactory
Feb. 10	Nil.	1.2	0.15	0.006	27.0	14.0	6.0	20.0	Do.	
Mar. 10	Nil.	1.2	0.20	0.004	28.0	16.0	6.0	22.0	Do.	
April 14	Nil.	1.3	0.20	0.004	29.0	17.0	6.0	23.0	Do.	
May 11	Nil.	1.2	0.20	0.004	28.0	16.0	6.0	22.0	Do.	
June 16	Nil.	1.2	0.20	0.006	28.0	15.0	6.0	21.0	Do.	
July 14	Nil.	1.2	0.20	0.004	28.0	16.0	6.0	22.0	Do.	
Aug. 11	Nil.	1.3	0.15	0.001	29.0	17.0	6.0	23.0	Do.	
Sept. 15	Nil.	1.4	0.20	0.012	30.1	16.0	7.0	23.0	Do.	
Oct. 13	Nil.	1.3	0.20	0.010	28.0	16.0	6.0	22.0	Do.	
Nov. 10	Nil.	0.001	1.3	0.35	0.010	28.0	16.0	6.0	22.0	Do.
Dec. 15	Nil.	0.002	1.2	0.20	0.004	28.0	16.0	6.0	22.0	Do.

COVENTRY COLLIERY.

1937.										
Jan. 11	Nil.	0.001	1.9	0.20	0.011	40.0	23.0	12.0	35.0	Satisfactory
Feb. 8	Nil.	0.001	2.0	0.20	0.011	40.0	23.0	12.0	35.0	Do.
Mar. 8	Nil.	0.001	2.2	0.15	0.013	40.0	23.0	12.0	35.0	Do.
April 12	Nil.	0.002	2.3	0.20	0.016	42.0	24.0	12.0	36.0	Do.
May 10	0.001	0.002	2.2	0.20	0.011	41.0	23.0	12.0	35.0	Do.
June 14	Nil.	0.002	2.0	0.20	0.008	40.0	23.0	12.0	35.0	Do.
July 12	0.001	0.002	2.1	0.20	0.012	40.0	23.0	12.0	35.0	Do.
Aug. 9	0.001	0.001	1.9	0.20	0.007	42.0	25.0	11.0	36.0	Do.
Sept. 13	0.002	0.002	2.1	0.20	0.009	40.0	23.0	11.0	34.0	Do.
Oct. 11	0.001	0.001	1.8	0.25	0.010	41.0	24.0	12.0	36.0	Do.
Nov. 8	Nil.	0.002	1.8	0.35	0.018	41.0	25.0	11.0	36.0	Do.
Dec. 16	Nil.	0.002	1.8	0.20	0.009	41.0	25.0	11.0	36.0	Do.

Sanitary Provision and Refuse Disposal.

The estimated number of sanitary conveniences existing at the close of the year is shown below :—

	December, 1936.	December, 1937.
Number of water closets in houses, institutions, schools, factories and workshops in the City	... ... 68,188	74,628
Number of privy middens	... ... 124	122
" of pail closets	... ... 709	708
" of ash-pits	... ... 61	60
" of cesspools	... ... 734	734

The privy middens, pail closets and cesspools still existing are situated at houses in certain peripheral portions of the City, where, owing to the absence of sewerage facilities, it has been impracticable to effect an improvement by the introduction of the water carriage system. By the completion of the main trunk sewer in the Sowe Valley area it will now be possible in many instances to provide modern sanitary conveniences and to dispense with cesspools.

Portable galvanised iron dustbins are now in general use for the reception of refuse from houses, institutions, schools, etc., throughout the City. At the present time there are approximately 71,448 dustbins in use. The removal of household refuse is undertaken by the Local Authority. The quantity of refuse collected and disposed of during the year was 52,974 tons. Of this, 25,474 tons were destroyed at the refuse destructor and 27,500 tons were dealt with by controlled tipping.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

That portion of the work of the Health Department connected with nuisances in and around dwellings and with property improvements can best be set out in tabular form. The figures in relation to these matters for the year are as follows :—

DRAINAGE AND PAVEMENT.	1936.	1937.
Drains opened and cleansed from obstruction	579	595
Drains provided with efficient traps ...	270	114
New Drains, inspection and intercepting chambers provided	508	335
Drains relaid	88	108
Sink drains disconnected from sewer ...	3	—
Soil pipes and ventilating shafts improved or repaired	41	30
Rain-water pipes disconnected from the sewer	25	58
Courts and back yards paved and repaired	310	255
DWELLINGS.		
Floors of dwellings relaid or repaired ...	484	336
Dilapidated walls and ceilings repaired ...	783	486
Damp walls—Damp courses inserted ...	326	317
Repointed or cement rendered	458	431
Roofs repaired and made weatherproof ...	476	389
Dangerous stairs repaired	133	95
Additional windows provided and others repaired and made to open ...	672	400
Defective spouts repaired	350	292
Houses provided with food stores ...	98	78
Existing pantries provided with external ventilation	89	35
Sculleries provided, reconstructed or enlarged	98	72
Wash-houses provided	34	33
New sinks provided	318	234
New waste pipes provided and others repaired	278	207
Foul cellars cleansed and defects in drains remedied	12	13
Houses limewashed and cleansed ...	386	226
Houses cleansed after infectious disease	19	8
Verminous houses and furniture disinfested	—	206
Cases of overcrowding remedied ...	47	25
WATER CLOSETS AND URINALS.		
Additional water closets provided ...	177	177
Water closets reconstructed	49	59
Water closets repaired and limewashed ...	236	154
Water closets provided with new basins and traps	110	77
Water closet pans replaced with pedestals	224	185
Defective joints in flush pipes repaired ...	102	69
Foul W.C. basins and traps cleansed ...	65	100
Defective W.C. cisterns repaired ...	129	106
New flushing cisterns provided ...	211	244
Urinals cleansed and reconstructed ...	1	8
Urinals abolished	2	2

PRIVIES, CESSPOOLS, ASHPITS AND DUSTBINS.	1936.	1937.
Cesspools abolished	19	—
Offensive privies or pail closets converted into W.C.'s	7	1
Offensive privies or pail closets abolished	7	2
New W.C.'s erected in place of above ...	13	2
Offensive ashpits abolished	7	1
Sanitary dustbins provided in place of above	36	—
Other houses provided with sanitary dustbins	666	805
 VARIOUS.		
Smoke nuisances dealt with	26	20
Nuisances from animals kept, abated ...	21	18
Offensive accumulations removed	245	280
Courts and back yards cleansed by tenants	55	84
Gipsy tents and caravans removed	11	16
Cowshed improvements	153	65
Dairies reconstructed or improved ...	37	2
Water supply—additional taps provided ...	232	117
Polluted wells dispensed with	2	4
Town water supplied in place of well water	16	5
Offensive ditches cleansed	21	23
Miscellaneous...	1263	1051
 Totals	 11,028	 9,055

Summary of Inspectors' Work

IN CONNECTION WITH THE SUPPRESSION OF NUISANCES FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS.

	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	Totals.
No. of drains opened and cleansed from obstruction	384	382	380	437	394	396	405	471	679	595	4,523
" drains provided with efficient traps	19	14	11	40	89	154	274	243	270	114	1,228
" new drains provided to premises ...	68	85	243	338	317	527	600	482	508	443	3,611
" sink drains disconnected from the sewer ...	3	3	...	2	24	3	11	10	3	—	59
" new sinks provided and others repaired ...	39	28	44	126	185	356	668	329	596	441	2,812
" floors and walls of houses repaired ...	316	369	563	891	1234	1156	1494	1434	2051	1570	11,078
" roofs of houses repaired and made weatherproof ...	374	396	598	367	460	394	460	541	476	389	4,455
" defective spouts repaired ...	119	159	283	330	379	388	335	401	375	292	3,061
" houses limewashed and cleansed ...	223	255	335	314	411	297	439	490	386	226	3,376
" houses cleansed after infectious disease ...	185	106	149	55	33	44	72	49	19	8	720
" offensive privies or pail closets converted into water closets ...	2	3	53	15	10	33	15	2	7	1	141
" offensive privies or pail closets abolished	...	4	5	19	22	13	13	5	7	2	90
" new water closets erected in place of above	...	4	5	16	19	11	13	3	13	2	86
" additional new water closets provided ...	48	24	29	50	33	59	68	161	177	177	826
" water closets provided with new cisterns ...	95	149	100	112	107	163	137	221	211	244	1,539
" " " new basins and traps	118	163	176	105	115	129	132	161	159	77	1,335
" foul water closet drains cleaned ...	127	63	86	58	101	111	53	59	65	100	823
" defective W.C. cisterns, etc., repaired ...	350	605	438	502	584	523	532	78	691	573	4,876
" offensive ash pits abolished ...	11	18	6	16	9	9	2	5	7	1	84
" sanitary dustbins provided in place of the above	26	42	28	24	9	34	9	8	36	—	216
" " " to other premises	668	890	708	1446	1071	735	627	666	805	805	8,863
" urinals cleansed, repaired and reconstructed	8	20	9	5	11	6	20	5	1	8	93
" courts and backyards paved and repaired	29	29	48	115	147	171	270	366	310	255	1,740
" nuisances from animals kept, abated	45	41	105	77	52	57	44	79	21	18	539
" accumulations of manure, etc., removed ...	144	181	163	153	194	227	266	259	245	280	2,112
" smoke nuisances dealt with ...	28	41	26	23	25	14	19	26	20	236	236
" cases of overcrowding dealt with ...	11	37	43	21	43	79	51	30	47	25	387
" vent and soil pipes removed or replaced, and miscellaneous sanitary improvements effected	1,127	1,482	1,698	2,376	2,602	3,995	5,094	2,976	2,389	24,743	24,743

**Summary
of other Miscellaneous Work**

FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS.

	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
No. of visits and re-visits to premises ...	... 29,910	35,740	33,710	37,389	36,509	35,008	37,043	37,965	42,730	40,058
,, drains tested ... ...	... 95	106	225	258	350	501	491	589	522	607
,, visits respecting Infectious Diseases ...	... 2,478	1,247	1,581	562	450	810	1,031	828	757	565
,, notices issued for abatement of nuisances, including informal and statutory ...	... 2,401	2,768	3,517	3,620	3,499	3,114	3,382	3,681	4,135	3,273
,, statutory notices not complied with at the close of the year ... ...	... 12	5	9	7	12	4	8	2	0	2
,, summonses issued for non-compliance with notices served to abate nuisances ...	... 1	1	4	2	3	0	1	1	0	1
,, registered premises under supervision ...	... 591	1,053	1,183	1,231	1,239	1,209	1,398	1,471	1,380	1,454
,, visits paid to registered premises ...	... 4,393	4,174	3,867	3,029	3,954	2,701	3,376	2,144	2,296	2,039
,, references to City Engineer ...	... 235	279	203	135	169	186	196	227	235	213
,, references to Water Manager ...	... 223	293	171	117	101	38	44	67	42	38
,, references to Education Department ...	... 2,504	2,399	1,980	1,004	727	1,991	1,978	1,460	1,204	933

Canal Boats.

During the year 160 visits were made to canal boats and the cabins of 94 boats were examined and ascertained to be occupied by 92 men, 62 women and 66 children. The number of boats conforming with the appropriate Acts or Regulations was 87, while 9 infringements were noted on 7 boats. No case of infectious disease has been met with on any boat and it has not been necessary to detain any boat for the purpose of cleansing or disinfection.

It is worthy of note that of the 94 boats inspected, 33 were motor-propelled. The horse-drawn boats are gradually being superseded by more speedy and efficient mechanically-propelled boats.

The statistics for the year are as under :—

Total number of boats registered to 31st December, 1937 ...	547
Boats added to Register in 1937	11
Registrations cancelled	260
Actual No. of boats on Register on 31st December, 1937 ...	298

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THEATRES, MUSIC HALLS, ETC.

As directed by the Ministry of Health Circular No. 120, inspections have been made of the sanitary conditions existing at the 22 cinemas, theatres and music halls in the City, and reports were submitted to the Public Health and Watch Committees.

With the exception of three minor defects which were remedied after representation to the proprietors, the sanitary conditions were found to be satisfactory.

One new cinema was erected during the year. The year 1937 marks the passing of the old Hippodrome which had been in existence since 1907. This has now given place to the new Hippodrome, which is of modern construction and design and which has the most up-to-date systems of mechanical heating and ventilation.

References to other Departments.

These included 213 references to the City Engineer, 38 to the Water Manager, 1,022 to the Head Teachers of the Schools with duplicates to the Education Department, 933 to parents, and 79 to the City Librarian.

The character of the references to the City Engineer is set out in the following table :—

Dangerous buildings	2
Unauthorised buildings	2
Foul gullies and complaints relating to sewers ...	39
Refuse removal	125
Miscellaneous	45

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS IN 1937.

No. of Case	Complaint	Result	Total Fines and Costs
			£ s. d.
1	Contravention of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, viz.: failing to cause the walls and ceiling of a room in which meat was deposited for the purpose of sale to be whitewashed, cleansed or purified	Defendant fined	5 0 0
2	Contravention of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, viz.: suffering certain solid refuse to be deposited or to accumulate in a room in which meat was deposited for the purpose of preparation for sale	Defendant fined	5 0 0
3	Contravention of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, viz.: meat was deposited for the purpose of sale in a room in direct communication with a water closet	Defendant fined	5 0 0
4	Contravention of Article 31 (2) of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, viz.: bottling milk otherwise than on registered premises	Defendant fined	1 0 0
5	Contravention of Article 31 (2) of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, viz.: bottling milk otherwise than on registered premises	Defendant fined	1 0 0
6	Contravention of the Public Health Acts, 1875, viz.: failing to comply with a notice to abate a nuisance at yard and land at rear of certain premises arising from the insanitary condition of the surface of the said yard and land, also the keeping of a horse on the said land without suitable stabling accommodation	The Magistrates made an Order for the abatement of the nuisance within fourteen days	
7	Contravention of Article 31 (2) of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, viz.: bottling milk otherwise than on registered premises	Defendant fined	10 0
8	Contravention of Section 2 (1) of the Food and Drugs Adulteration Act, 1928, viz.: selling adulterated milk, the same being 20 per cent deficient of fat	Defendant fined	3 13 0
9	Contravention of Section 2 (1) of the Food and Drugs Adulteration Act, 1928, viz.: selling adulterated milk, the same being 31 per cent deficient of fat	Defendant fined	3 13 0
10	Contravention of Section 73 of the Public Health Act, 1925, viz.: distributing toys in exchange for rags and bones	Defendant fined	10 0

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY
BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

Number on Register, January, 1937	...	...	4
,, added to Register during the year	...	...	—
,, removed from Register during the year	...	...	—
,, remaining on Register, December, 1937	...	...	4
,, of changes of occupation	...	...	—

The numbers for which each lodging-house is registered, and the average number of lodgers received nightly, are as follows :

(1) Registered for	86.	Average number of lodgers	55
(2)	„ „ 36.	„ „ „	30
(3)	„ „ 60.	„ „ „	52
(4)	„ „ 28.	„ „ „	12

During the year, 66 visits were made to Common Lodging Houses in the City and in three instances contraventions were observed; the latter were remedied after the service of informal notices. Generally speaking, the houses were found to be reasonably clean and every effort was made by the keepers to conduct the houses in strict compliance with the Byelaws.

Houses Let in Lodgings.

Number on Register, January, 1937	...	...	31
„ added to the Register	...	...	—
„ discontinued	...	...	4
„ on Register, December, 1937	...	...	27
„ of visits during the year	...	...	133
„ of contraventions observed	...	...	87

Of the 87 infringements, 83 had been rectified at the year-end.

Of the four houses discontinued, one was demolished, and in each of the three remaining cases the house is now occupied by one family.

Offensive Trades.

Fish Fryers.

Number on Register, January, 1937	...	...	107
„ of applications received for licences	...	...	3
„ of applications approved	...	...	2
„ of applications disapproved	...	...	1
„ of licences renewed	...	...	16
„ of licences revoked	...	...	—
„ discontinued during the year	...	...	3
Total number on Register, December, 1937	106

Tripe Boilers.

Number on Register	8
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Hide and Skin Dealers.

Number on Register	1
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Rag and Bone Dealers.

Number on Register	3
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Gut Scraper.

Number on Register	1
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Tallow Melter.

Number on Register	1
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Bone Boiler.

Number on Register	2
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Visits.

Number of visits paid during the year	205		
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Fish Fryers.

Three businesses were voluntarily discontinued during the year, and licences were granted in two instances for the establishment of the trade at new premises on two new housing estates.

During the year, 164 visits were made and in 23 instances contraventions were observed which were rectified after service of informal notices.

Bone Boiler and Fat Melter.

A licence was granted in the early part of the year for permission to establish the business of a bone boiler and fat melter on new premises to be erected in the Longford district.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

The following tables are inserted in compliance with Section 132 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 :—

I.—INSPECTION.

Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES	279	19	..
(Including Factory Laundries).			
WORKSHOPS	325	23	..
(Including Workshop Laundries).			
WORKPLACES	331	18	..
(Other than outworkers premises included in Part 3 of this Report).			
TOTALS	935	60	..

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecu- tions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness	4	4	..	..
Want of ventilation	1	1	..	..
Overcrowding .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	..
Want of drainage of floors	1	1	..	..
Other nuisances	3	3	..	..
Sanitary accom- modation	insufficient	10	9	..
	unsuitable or defective	15	15	..
	not separate for sexes	4	4	..
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bake- house (s. 101) .. .. .. ..	..	..	..	..
Other offences	8	8	..	..
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections men- tioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921.)				
Totals	46	45	..	..

* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

Outworkers.

During the year, lists have been received from 29 firms concerning 242 outworkers. Of this number, 31 were employed in the making of wearing apparel and 211 in the making of textile fabrics. An inspection was made of the house premises and in each case these were found to be clean and satisfactory.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year	Number.
Bakers	37
Sugar Boilers	2
Watch Makers	11
Dressmakers	16
Tailors	34
Boot Makers and Repairers	13
Milliners	10
Joiners and Carpenters	9
Cabinet Makers	7
Cycle Repair Shops	5
Ironmongers and Smiths	11
Plumbers and Painters	10
Gas Fitters and Bellhangers	—
Pattern Makers and Brassfounders	1
Saddlers	2
Tinworkers	1
Picture Framers	1
Laundries	1
Box and Bag Makers	—
Printers and Bookbinders	1
Card Stampers	—
Engravers, etc.	1
Marine Store Dealers	3
Coach Builders and Wheelwrights	4
Various	116
Total number of workshops on Register	296

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133), 1901	0
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5), 1901	39
Notified by H.M. Inspector	
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ..	38
Other	1
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year	0
In use at the end of the year	0

Bakehouses.

Number on Register, January, 1937	...	78
,, dispensed with during the year	...	1
,, of Bakehouses unoccupied	...	10
,, of changes of occupancy	...	2
,, of Bakehouses opened during the year	...	1
,, of Bakehouses on Register, December, 1937	...	78
,, of visits	...	148

In 29 instances, contraventions were observed having relation to unsatisfactory conditions of floors, walls, ceilings and utensils. In each case the necessary cleansing was carried out after service of informal notice.

Shops Act, 1934.

The general provisions of the Shops Act are administered locally by the Shops Inspectors under the Weights and Measures Department. There are, however, certain clauses in the Act which require that adequate arrangements be made to secure the efficient ventilation and heating of shops, also for the provision of suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation.

Arrangements have been made locally whereby any infringements of the Act relating to sanitary matters observed by the Shops Inspectors are referred to the Public Health Department. During the year, 362 inspections were made under the Act and in 9 instances infringements were observed relating to defective, unsuitable or insufficient sanitary accommodation. In 8 cases, notices were served and suitable sanitary provision was made. In the remaining case, owing to restricted accommodation and to the fact that suitable sanitary provision was conveniently available elsewhere, an exemption certificate was granted.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

The following table shows the action taken during the year :—

No. of complaints investigated during the year 1937	...	
respecting rat infested premises	...	418
,, , visits and re-visits to premises known to be infested	...	1,375
,, , poison baits laid in sewers and along the course of River Sherbourne	...	11,200
,, , packets of Red Squill biscuits supplied to occupiers of premises with instructions as to use	...	1,271
,, , instances where smoke and sulphur were applied to rat runs	...	80
,, , notices sent requiring premises to be made rat-proof and defective drains to be rectified	...	50
,, , instances where rat runs from defective drains were sealed, and defects in drains remedied	...	51
,, , cases where basements, walls, etc., were made rat-proof	...	6

No. of instances, where, on subsequent inspection,			
premises were reported to be free from rats			166
,, „ carcasses or tails of rats for which awards were paid at the Refuse Destructor ...	...		715

The number of complaints received during the past year is considerably more than in previous years. This is probably due to four factors, namely :—

- (1) The extension of the boundaries.
- (2) The extraordinary amount of demolition work which has been carried out and which is still proceeding.
- (3) The improvements which are being carried out in connection with the River Sherbourne, resulting in the disturbance of rats.
- (4) The gradual spreading out of new estates into the rural areas, as a result of continual development. This has meant that rats now make their way into new premises from ditches, water courses and fields.

The services of a temporary rat-catcher were engaged during the year to deal with rat-infestation on one of the large building estates and at the close of the year, the Council, on the recommendation of the Public Health Committee, decided to appoint a full-time Corporation rat-catcher as from 1st April, 1938.

“National Rat Week.”

During the National Rat Week held from 1st to 6th November, a special effort was made to stimulate the interest of owners of lands and premises by means of advertisements in the local press and the distribution of literature dealing with the subject of rat destruction. As far as possible, all premises known to be rat-infested were visited, poisons were issued free of charge and advice was given as to their use.

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1911.

The object of this Act is to prohibit the manufacture, sale or use of any rag flock which does not conform to the specified standard of cleanliness. Rag flock is not manufactured locally. In cases where it is used for upholstery work and in the making of cushions, beds, etc., local firms obtain their rag flock under a warranty from outside manufacturers.

Caravans.

During the year 114 inspections of caravans were made; in 16 instances, removals were brought about from land which was not suitable for their occupation.

The new Public Health Act which came into force during the past year contains improved provisions which are largely based upon the nuisance clauses and these make specific reference to sanitary accommodation. This is a distinct advance on previous legislation and taken in conjunction with the Coventry Corporation

Act, 1927, provides additional powers for dealing with this difficult problem. The great difficulty experienced locally is in respect of caravans which come into the City and stay for short periods. Most of these arrive during the winter months. Some are occupied by hawkers who travel from town to town in search of work, whilst others belong to members of the "Showman's Guild"; these usually remain during the slack period when the fairs close down.

Smoke Abatement.

By the introduction of new legislation during the year, the powers relating to smoke nuisances are consolidated under one Act, namely, the Public Health Act, 1936. Practically the whole of the Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926, has been repealed and corresponding provisions have been made under the new Public Health Act. The powers for dealing with nuisances from trade processes are extended to include nuisances arising from the emission of dust or effluvia.

The Act provides that in any installation for the combustion of fuel used in any manufacturing or trade process, all practicable steps shall be taken to prevent the emission of smoke to the atmosphere, and any chimney (not being the chimney of a private house), emitting smoke in such quantity as to be a nuisance shall constitute a statutory nuisance.

During the year, 397 observations were made at 49 factories. In 28 instances, nuisances were observed, 20 of which were abated and 8 were being dealt with at the close of the year. Twenty-nine written notices were served, including one statutory notice. In 23 instances, complaints were received relating to excessive smoke emission and in 5 instances, to grit emission; 17 of the smoke nuisances were found to be due to improper stoking, 4 to defective furnaces or flues and in 2 instances to unsuitable plant. Three of the grit nuisances were found to arise from the process of aluminium refining and one from the use of pulverised fuel in re-heating furnaces. Representations were made to the firms concerned, calling upon them to abate the nuisance. The measures carried out to secure abatement were as follows:—In 10 instances, where the furnaces were hand-fired, improved methods of firing were adopted. An improvement was effected in 10 other cases by the consumption of better fuel, repairs to flues and furnaces and, where necessary, the installation of more suitable plant.

There is no doubt that hand stoking is responsible for much of the black smoke emitted from boiler chimneys and this is due in many cases to careless or irregular firing. Excessive smoke emission indicates incomplete combustion with a consequent loss of heat and therefore should be prevented, both from the viewpoint of plant efficiency and nuisance caused to residents by the deposit of soot. With a view to obtaining the co-operation of manufacturers and stokers in this matter, a card of "Instructions to Boiler Attendants" has been supplied in several instances by the Public Health Department.

Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies

Closure of Private Slaughterhouses

CLOSURE OF PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

In the pre-1928 extension City there were 43 private slaughterhouses. These were all closed in 1932 and 1933 pursuant of an agreement between the Corporation and the local butchers concerned. Full particulars of this arrangement were given in the 1932 Report and also in an article contributed to *The Medical Officer* of January 28th, 1933.

In those portions of the City added by the boundary extensions of 1928 and 1932, there were 10 private slaughterhouses. In the Coventry Corporation Act, 1936, a clause was obtained (Section 56) enabling the Corporation to secure the closure of these ten residual premises. In the case of one butcher a moratorium of three years was granted. During the year under review 9 of these residual private slaughterhouses were duly closed. The last remaining place will be closed in 1939.

In the case of the 43 private slaughterhouses closed in 1932 and 1933, the capital cost to the Corporation was £5,765, and in addition there was a cost of £2,500 representing the total value of abattoir concessions accorded for five years to certain of the butchers concerned. Thus the total cost in this connection was £8,265. In the case of the 9 private slaughterhouses closed in 1937, the total cost to the Corporation was £4,138. For a sum of £12,403 therefore, 52 private slaughterhouses have now been closed.

The wholesale closure of private slaughterhouses and the resultant centralization of local meat production in the Public Abattoir constitute a notable and far-reaching sanitary reform.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

The following figures relate to meat inspection work carried out by the Public Health Department inspectors at the Abattoir during 1937 :—

	Cattle.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Numbers killed	10,825*	—	2965	45,328	21,857
Numbers inspected † ..	10,827*	—	2965	45,330	21,860
Whole carcasses condemned for diseases and conditions other than tuberculosis ..	11	28	22	68	9
Cases where Parts of Carcasses condemned for diseases and conditions other than tuberculosis	500	454	32	636	1181
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases and conditions other than tuberculosis ..	9·17*	—	1·82	1·55	5·44
Whole Carcasses condemned for tuberculosis	26	61	9	nil	52
Cases where Parts of Carcasses condemned for tuberculosis	696	1,050	11	nil	1,453
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	16·93*	—	0·67	nil	6·88

† The carcasses and organs of 2 bovines, 2 sheep and 3 pigs that had been slaughtered outside were submitted for inspection at the Abattoir.

* These figures include cows. Separate figures for (i) cattle, (excluding cows) and (ii) cows are only available in respect of condemned carcasses or condemned parts of carcasses.

Tuberculosis.

Organs destroyed :—Heads, 1,749; lungs, 1,920; hearts, 500; livers, 746; udders, 71; spleens, 301; kidneys, 323; stomachs, 298; intestines, 602; mesenteries, 1,514; omentums, 228.

Other Diseases and Conditions.

Organs destroyed :—Heads, 222; lungs, 1,256; hearts, 583; livers, 1,870; udders, 365; spleens, 210; kidneys, 625; stomachs, 240; intestines, 278; mesenteries, 277; omentums, 191.

Total weight of Meat and offals destroyed.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Tuberculosis	52	8	1	5
Other diseases and conditions	21	13	1	18
Total	74	1	2	23

All meat and offals found to be unfit for human food were voluntarily surrendered by the respective owners.

Unsound Meat--Private Slaughterhouses.

During the year, 22 notifications were received from 7 butchers as required by Part 2 of the Public Health Meat Regulations. The notifications concerned the carcases of 16 heifers, 1 bullock, 1 calf, 2 sheep and 2 pigs. The quantity of unsound or diseased meat surrendered and destroyed as a result was estimated to amount to 685lbs. (602lbs. beef; 80lbs. pork; 3lbs. mutton).

Inspections of the private slaughterhouses have been carried out by sanitary inspectors, who are qualified meat inspectors. A total of 245 inspections have been made and the following carcases were examined :—

Beef	...	...	...	67
Mutton and Lamb	...	...	...	109
Pork and Veal	...	...	...	87

Tuberculosis Order, 1925.

During the year, 5 cows were slaughtered under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order, 1925; two of these were affected with advanced tuberculosis and were destroyed; three were affected with localised tuberculosis and the affected organs were destroyed.

Contagious Diseases of Animals.

A case of anthrax was ascertained at the Abattoir during the year. The affected animal was a bullock, which was found dead on arrival. Immediate diagnosis and drastic precautionary measures—including the prophylactic inoculation of human contacts with anti-anthrax serum—prevented any spread of the disease.

There were two minor outbreaks of swine erysipelas, where in each case a pig was found dead in the lairs. Contact animals were slaughtered and the lairs disinfected. As the affected pigs had only been in the lairs for a very short period, it was evident that they had been infected before arrival at the Abattoir.

Livestock Industries Act, 1937.

The additional duties connected with the administration of this Act have devolved upon the two departmental meat inspectors, who for this purpose are appointed Certifying Officer and Deputy Certifying Officer respectively.

Hawking of Meat.

The Coventry Corporation Act, 1936, gives additional powers in regard to the hawking of meat and provides that a person who does not keep an open shop for the sale of meat or meat food products, shall not be permitted to hawk meat in the City unless

he obtains a certificate from the Local Authority certifying that the accommodation used by him for the storage of meat or meat food products is suitable for the purpose.

The practice of hawking meat has to some degree increased owing to the developments which have taken place in the outlying districts. The District Inspectors keep meat hawkers' vans under observation as far as possible and inspect the meat exposed for sale therein. During the year, one application was received for registration of meat hawker's premises and this was approved.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

HUMANE SLAUGHTERING.

The above Act has been applicable to all animals slaughtered for human food in the City since 1st April, 1935. Most of the slaughtering is carried on at the Abattoir, where both electrically operated instruments and captive bolt pistols are in use for the stunning of animals. There is now only one private slaughterhouse in the City and in this the captive bolt pistol is also used. Strict adherence to the provisions of the Act has been observed and no case of infringement has been detected during the year.

SLAUGHTERERS' LICENCES.

Section 3 of the Act requires the licensing of slaughtermen by the Local Authority and only fit and proper persons who have attained the age of 18 years are permitted to hold such a licence.

The figures as to licensed slaughtermen in the City are as follows :—

New licences granted during 1937	...	...	10
Total number of licences in operation, December, 1937			306

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

The object of these regulations is to ensure that all meat for consumption is produced, handled and conveyed at all times under hygienic conditions.

"Meat" is defined in the Regulations as the flesh of cattle, swine, sheep and goats, also bacon and ham, together with edible offal and fat. Provision has been made for the notification prior to slaughter of animals intended for human consumption, and of any disease or unsoundness found after slaughter. Comprehensive powers are given to examine "meat" at all stages from production to sale for consumption by the public.

Inspections and observations on shops, stores and vehicles have been carried out as far as possible, and in this connection 818 visits were made by inspectors during the year. Contraventions were found in 69 instances, and of this number 64 were remedied following the service of a notice. It was found necessary to take police court proceedings in three instances, and in each case a penalty of £5 was imposed.

(See tables relating to Magisterial Proceedings).

INSPECTION OF FOOD AT MARKETS, SHOPS AND STORES.

The markets, shops and stores where food is prepared and exposed for sale, were kept under observation during the year and in connection with these 1,200 visits and inspections were made. Shopkeepers are encouraged and advised to notify any suspicious foodstuffs for inspection, and certificates are issued covering all surrendered foods. Under the heading "Unsound Food" will be found particulars of the various foods surrendered. It can be recorded that, generally speaking, the quality of the food exposed for sale locally is of a reasonably high standard.

Milk.

The estimated quantity of milk consumed per day in the City has now reached the figure of 11,000 gallons, this being an increase of about 1,400 gallons on the previous year's supply.

This increase is principally due to the growth in population, although there is every reason to believe that it is also due partly to an increased consumption per head. Of the 11,000 gallons consumed, approximately 2,000 gallons were produced at farms within the City, this being a slight decrease on the previous year's figure. It is pleasing to record that there is an increasing demand for milk delivered in bottles and cartons; considerably over two-thirds of the daily supply is now pasteurised and bottled at the dairy before delivery to the consumer.

With regard to the quality of the milk, chemical analysis revealed that of the 180 samples examined, one was found to be adulterated with 10 per cent. of added water, and in six cases the fat content was found to be below the prescribed legal limit.

Designated Milk.

The grading of milk is subject to the conditions set out in the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, in which are prescribed the following designations :—

- (1) "Tuberculin Tested."
- (2) "Accredited."
- (3) "Pasteurised."

"Tuberculin Tested" milk is that from cows which have passed a veterinary examination and a tuberculin test for freedom from tuberculosis.

The designation "Accredited" may be used in connection with raw milk from cows which have passed a veterinary inspection but not a tuberculin test for tuberculosis. The milk must satisfy certain prescribed bacteriological tests.

The third designation "Pasteurised" is applicable to milk which has been retained at a temperature of 145° to 150° F. for at least thirty minutes.

It is unlawful for any person to use any of these designations unless he holds a licence from the appropriate licensing authority.

The total number and nature of the licences issued during the year, together with the number issued the previous year, are set out below :—

		1936	1937
"Tuberculin Tested,"	Dealer's licence ...	3	2
" "	Bottling establishment	1	1
" "	Supplementary licence	1	1
"Accredited,"	Producer's licence ...	6	6
" "	Producer's licence and bottling establishment	3	3
" "	Supplementary licence	3	5
"Pasteurised,"	Pasteurising establishment	2	2
" "	Dealer's licence ...	2	2
" "	Supplementary licence	1	1

In order to ascertain whether the milk was being produced in accordance with the conditions under which the licences were granted, samples were obtained periodically in each case and submitted to the public health laboratory at Birmingham University for bacteriological investigation with the following results :—

Designation	No. of Samples examined.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
"Tuberculin Tested" ..	22	15	7
"Accredited" ..	38	24	14
" Pasteurised" ..	25	22	3

Regarding the unsatisfactory samples, the action taken is detailed below, and for convenience each case is referred to by letter.

"Tuberculin Tested" Milk.

- (A) In one case, 9 samples were procured during the course of the year and 6 failed to satisfy the prescribed methylene blue reduction test for cleanliness. The milk was produced at a County farm and samples obtained at the farm were also found to be unsatisfactory. In consequence of the adverse reports, the dealer concerned changed the supply and the case was still under observation at the close of the year.
- (B) In the case of a second dairy, 7 samples were obtained, and in one instance the milk was unsatisfactory. The dairyman was notified and subsequent samples complied with the prescribed conditions.

"Accredited" Milk.

- (C) Six samples were obtained from a producer-retailer who bottled the milk at the farm; 4 of the samples did not satisfy the prescribed test. The farmer was informed that unless the milk was produced in accordance with the prescribed conditions, it would be necessary to suspend the operation of the licence. A further sample was obtained and this was found to be satisfactory.

(D) In another case, that of a producer, 5 samples were obtained, 4 of which failed to satisfy the prescribed test. After a letter of caution had been sent to the producer, a further sample was obtained which proved to be satisfactory.

In five other cases, four samples were taken at each farm and in each case, one sample failed to satisfy the prescribed test.

"Pasteurised" Milk.

Of the 25 samples of "Pasteurised" milk examined, 3 were found to be below standard, in that the bacterial count exceeded the prescribed limit. Appropriate action was taken in each case and further samples were obtained which were found to be satisfactory.

Milk Samples for Tubercl Bacilli.

During the year, 61 samples were submitted to the laboratory at Birmingham University for examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli. Of these samples 25 were of milk produced within the City and 36 were of milk on sale in the City but produced outside the boundary. Of the 25 samples of City milk one proved positive; of the 36 samples produced outside 2 were positive.

The positive sample of milk produced in the City was obtained from a suspected cow after a veterinary examination of the herd had been made. The affected cow was dealt with under the Tuberculosis Order and slaughtered.

The two positive samples from outside areas were from milk produced at two farms situated in the administrative County. The County Authority was informed and investigations were made at the farms concerned. In one case, an individual sample and two bulk samples were submitted for examination, each of which proved negative. The cows in the herd were examined by the Veterinary Inspector but none was found to be suspicious; in these circumstances, no further action was considered necessary. In the second case, two individual samples and one bulk sample were obtained; the bulk sample proved positive and the individual samples negative. The affected cow was traced and slaughtered under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order.

Purveyors of Milk.

Number of retail purveyors selling loose milk within the City :—	Year 1936.	Year 1937.
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(a) Residing in the City ...	210	204
(b) Residing outside the City	122	128

Number of retail purveyors selling bottled milk only (residing in City)	462	474
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Number of wholesale traders and producers (not selling by retail) within the City ...	26	25
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During the year, 784 inspections were made of dairies, milk-shops and milk vehicles. In 23 instances contraventions of the Milk and Dairies Order were observed, relating chiefly to failure to maintain dairies and vehicles in a clean condition, and to the illegal practice of bottling milk in the public street or on unregistered premises. In regard to the latter, proceedings were instituted in three cases; the offenders in two instances were fined £1 each and in the third instance, 10/-.

Proceedings were instituted at the close of the year against a dairyman in regard to four contraventions of the Milk and Dairies Order concerning the keeping of milk on unregistered premises and the uncleanliness of milk vessels. The cases were heard in the early part of 1938 and fines amounting to £20 were imposed.

The sale of loose milk from general stores has been discontinued during the year in seven instances. It is pleasing to note that the undesirable practice of exposing milk for sale in general stores is now giving place to the more hygienic method of distribution in sealed bottles or cartons.

Cowsheds.

Number of cowkeepers on Register, January, 1937	70
„ „ „ discontinued during the year	2
„ added during the year	...
„ on register, December, 1937	...
„ visits paid during the year	...
„ of notices issued	...

The number of cowkeepers on the register at the close of the year was 68, the farm premises in two instances having been demolished and the land acquired for housing developments.

All the farms have as far as possible been kept under observation during the year. Inspections have been made during the times of milking when close attention has been paid to the methods of milk production, particularly in regard to the cleanliness of the milkers and the sterilization of the milk vessels and utensils. Contraventions of the Milk and Dairies Order were observed in 38 instances, and these were remedied after service of notices. At nine cowsheds major structural improvements were effected during the year.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Mr. Dale, the Veterinary Inspector, reports as follows:

"I have pleasure in submitting my report for 1937 on the dairy cows within the City. The number of cows is about 900. Their health and general condition have been good throughout the

year. One case of dangerous tuberculosis disease was found and eradicated. Fortunately the milk in this case was not in use for human consumption. A mild outbreak of non-tubercular inflammation of the udder occurred during the autumn."

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1925-1927.

The Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations were introduced with the object of prohibiting the general use of preservative and colouring matters in articles of food. In the past there was a tendency to introduce into food, particularly imported food, preservatives and colouring matters of an injurious character. Happily the rapid advance made in recent years with regard to refrigerators has to a great extent rendered the use of preservatives unnecessary. It is, however, still considered inadvisable to prohibit the use of the preservatives sulphur dioxide and benzoic acid in certain scheduled foods, including sausages, sausage meat, coffee extract, pickles, sauces, etc., within certain specified limits. Where such scheduled foods are preserved, the regulations provide that the presence of a preservative shall be disclosed at the time of sale either by a suitable label or by means of a notice exhibited in a conspicuous place so as to be easily readable by a customer.

Analysis made during the year of most of the articles of food in general use revealed that of 421 samples analysed, only three of sausages were found to contain the preservative sulphur dioxide. In each case, the amount of preservative did not exceed the prescribed legal limit of 450 parts per million. The fact that the sausages were preserved was not disclosed as required by the regulations, and it was therefore necessary to issue a letter of caution.

Unsound Food.

The following quantities of unsound food have been surrendered from markets, shops and stores :—

69 lbs. beef; 60 lbs. livers; 48 lbs. sausages; 25 lbs. tripe; 24 pork pies; 199 couples of rabbits; 31 chickens; 3 turkeys; $3\frac{1}{4}$ cwts. wet fish; 12 cwts. shell fish; $23\frac{3}{4}$ cwts. cured fish; 280 tins of fish; 10 pots of fish and meat paste; 262 tins of meat; 808 tins of tomatoes; 662 tins of fruit; 9 tins of cream; 45 tins of condensed milk; 33 jars of fresh cream; 248 tins of vegetables; 61 tins of beans; 50 tins of spaghetti; 7 tins of soup; 22 lbs. liquid eggs; 38 bottles of sauce; 52 jars of jam; 466 jars of pickles; 25 puddings; $5\frac{3}{4}$ cwts. fresh fruit; 55 cwts. carrots; 153 cwts. onions; $13\frac{1}{2}$ cwts. beetroot; 22 cwts. parsnips; $5\frac{1}{2}$ cwts. potatoes; 41 lbs. miscellaneous items of food.

MANUFACTURE OF ICE CREAM.

Number of names on Register, January, 1937	...	137
„ „ „ added to the Register during the year	...	28
„ of cases where the sale of ice cream was discontinued during the year	...	16
„ of names on the Register, December, 1937	...	149*

*Of this number, 94 are makers of ice cream, the remaining 55 being vendors only.

The Coventry Corporation Act, 1911, contains clauses in regard to premises where ice cream is manufactured, and requires the occupier of such premises to take all reasonable precautions to guard against the contamination of ice cream and the ingredients used in its manufacture. A register is kept of all persons or firms dealing in ice cream, and as far as possible their premises are kept under observation. During the course of inspections, these were found to be reasonably clean. It is gratifying to note that the manufacture of this commodity has been discontinued at many of the smaller shops, the vendors having made arrangements with wholesale firms to be supplied with cream and have provided themselves with suitable refrigerators for storage purposes. By this arrangement, ice cream is stored under more hygienic conditions and is less liable to contamination from outside sources.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928, AND
REGULATIONS MADE UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH
(REGULATIONS AS TO FOOD) ACT, 1907.

During the year 421 samples of food were submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis, who certified 403 samples to be genuine and 18 adulterated.

The samples detailed in the table below were collected in the following manner :—

Formal samples, 176; informal samples, 245.

Articles.	Total.	Genuine.	Not Genuine.
New Milk ..	180	173	7
Condensed Full Cream Milk ..	3	3	..
Condensed Machine Skimmed Milk ..	1	1	..
Cream (Tinned) ..	8	8	..
Butter ..	42	41	1
Margarine ..	17	17	..
Lard ..	17	17	..
Slab Cake ..	8	8	..
Sponge Cake ..	3	3	..
Confectionery ..	4	4	..
Cocoa ..	7	7	..
Tea ..	6	6	..
Coffee Essence ..	8	8	..
Custard Powder ..	5	5	..
Corn Flour ..	4	4	..
Ground Rice ..	4	4	..
Baking Powder ..	9	5	4
Mincemeat ..	8	8	..
Ground Almonds ..	5	5	..
Arrowroot ..	3	3	..
Self Raising Flour ..	5	5	..
Jam ..	9	6	3
Dried Fruit Salad ..	3	3	..
Pork Sausage ..	16	15	1
Beef Sausage ..	13	11	2
Luncheon Sausage ..	2	2	..
Brawn ..	4	4	..
Dripping ..	10	10	..
Jellied Veal ..	1	1	..
Potted Meat ..	1	1	..
Chicken and Ham Roll ..	1	1	..
Fish Paste ..	2	2	..
Sauce ..	6	6	..
Pickles ..	6	6	..
Totals	421	403	18

Particulars relating to Adulterated Samples.

Milk.

Of the 180 samples of milk submitted for analysis, 173 were formal and 7 informal; 173 were found to be genuine and 7 adulterated.

Of the adulterated samples, one was found to contain 10 per cent. of added water and 6 were deficient of fat in amounts varying from 6 per cent. to 31 per cent.

Sample containing added water 1.

The sample found to contain added water was an informal sample obtained from a retail dairyman who received his milk supply from a farm situated in the County. The County Authority was notified and samples were obtained at the farm in course of delivery from the farmer to the dairyman. Eight samples were procured and these were found to be heavily adulterated with added water.

Magisterial proceedings were instituted against the farmer by the County Authority and fines amounting to £16 were imposed.

Samples deficient of fat 6.

These were obtained in connection with three cases involving two retail dairymen selling milk on rounds and one producer-retailer. The circumstances of each case are set out below, and for convenience are referred to by letter:

- (A) In this case a formal sample was obtained from a retail dairyman and certified to be 10 per cent. deficient of fat. The dairyman was supplied by a farmer residing in the County. A formal sample was obtained in course of delivery from the farmer to the dairyman and was found to be genuine but poor in quality. In view of the fact that the deficiency appeared to be due to improper mixing and not to any wilful abstraction of fat, the dairyman was cautioned by order of the Public Health Committee.
- (B) Three samples, one informal and two formal, were obtained from a retail dairyman selling milk on a round; one was certified to be 10 per cent. deficient of fat and two to be 6 per cent. deficient of fat. The dairyman obtained his supply from a farm in the County. A sample obtained at the farm in course of delivery to the dairyman was certified to be genuine but down to the limit in fat. As there appeared to be little doubt that the milk was low in fat when delivered to the dairyman, and there being no reason to believe that fat had been wilfully abstracted the dairyman was cautioned.
- (C) Two formal samples were obtained from a farmer who produced his own milk and sold it on a round. One sample was certified to be 20 per cent. deficient of fat and the other 31 per cent. deficient of fat. Three further samples were obtained from the farmer before he had commenced serving customers and these were found to be genuine. Magisterial proceedings were instituted against the farmer, who was fined £6 and ordered to pay costs amounting to 26s.

Baking Powder.

Four informal samples of baking powder were found to be deficient of available carbon dioxide to the extent of 5 per cent., 6 per cent., 13 per cent. and 26 per cent.

Two of the samples which were deficient were obtained from the same shop; a formal sample was subsequently obtained which proved genuine. In the case of the sample deficient of 13 per cent., a further sample was obtained which proved to be genuine. In regard to the sample found to be 26 per cent. deficient, this was purchased informally from a small general stores; upon investigation it was ascertained that the sample was the remains of old stock. No fresh stock was ordered by the shopkeeper as there was very little demand for it and therefore a formal sample could not be obtained.

Jam.

Two informal samples of black currant jam marked "Full Fruit Standard" were found to be deficient of 30 per cent. of black currant fruit. These samples were purchased from two retail stores supplied by the same manufacturer. A formal sample was obtained in each case; one was certified to be genuine, while the other was 5 per cent. below the standard. Owing to the comparatively wide natural variation of the fruit and to the difficulty of securing an absolutely uniform product in practice, it was considered inadvisable to take any further action with respect to the unsatisfactory sample, but to keep the vendor under observation.

Sausages.

Of the 29 samples of sausages submitted, three of beef and one of pork contained the permissible preservative, sulphur dioxide, in amounts within the prescribed legal limits of 450 parts per million. In three instances, however, the presence of a preservative was not declared at the time of sale; the sausages were, therefore, reported as adulterated. The vendors were cautioned, after which compliance with the preservative regulations was effected by means of a notice displayed in the shop.

Butter and Margarine.

One informal sample of butter was found to contain 19 per cent. moisture, the legal maximum being 16 per cent.; the moisture content therefore exceeded the legal limit by 18½ per cent. A second sample was obtained and this was found to be genuine, the moisture content being 15.6 per cent. Two samples of margarine, although genuine in regard to their chemical composition, were reported to be unsatisfactory by reason of incorrect labelling.

Drugs.

The Coventry Insurance Committee cause periodical samples to be taken of drugs and appliances as supplied by local chemists to insured persons. In this matter, Mr. J. C. Lee Gordon, the Clerk to the Committee, kindly supplies the following note:—

“ During the year, 20 tests were taken—16 of mixtures and 4 of appliances. Fifteen of the mixtures were found to have been very accurately dispensed, while one was the subject of disciplinary enquiry. All four specimens of appliances were found to be up to official standard by the Testing House of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce.”

Nutrition—Popular Education.

Among the subjects that present favourable scope for popular health education, that of food and nutrition occupies a first place. The nutrition problem in a working-class family may arise from one or both of the following considerations, viz.: financial inability to buy enough food, or ignorance as to what to buy. The first point is for the economist; the second is assuredly for the public health service to deal with.

The subject of nutrition was included in many of the popular health lectures given during the year by medical officers of the Department to various local organizations. Cookery demonstrations were a prominent feature of the Health Exhibition held in December, 1937, in connection with the National Health Campaign. In connection with the Exhibition, film displays were arranged and films exhibited included some dealing with food and nutrition. These were seen by large numbers of children as well as by adults.

Mental Deficiency

Mental Treatment

Welfare of the Blind

Care of the Deaf and Dumb

MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

Institutional Provision. Reference has been made in previous Reports to the need of more comprehensive provision for local defectives requiring institutional care. Hitherto, local cases in this category have been accommodated piece-meal in numerous institutions in various parts of the country. In addition a number of defectives have been maintained in the City Public Assistance Institutions (London Road and Exhall). Then again there is in the Warwickshire and Coventry Mental Hospital a number of local cases that are certifiable as mental defectives.

The objects of the Mental Deficiency Act Committee, as endorsed by the Council, have been (*a*) to collect all these cases under one roof, and (*b*) to bring them under the administration of one Committee, namely the Mental Deficiency Act Committee.

These objects will be achieved under an Agreement now concluded between the Corporation and the governing body of the Great Barr Park Colony whereby all Coventry institutional cases will be accommodated in the last-mentioned Colony under the care of the Mental Deficiency Act Committee. The Agreement operates as from April 1st, 1938, and at the time of writing, the bulk transfer of cases is in progress.

Ascertainment. The local practice in regard to ascertainment of cases was described in the 1936 Report. During 1937, 23 cases were notified by the Local Education Authority and 12 cases were otherwise initially ascertained.

Guardianship. At the year-end, 35 local cases were under guardianship at their homes. In all necessitous cases appropriate monetary allowances are made. Guardianship cases are visited systematically by the health visiting staff, and at intervals by the departmental medical officers.

Statutory Supervision. At the end of the year, there were 216 local cases under statutory supervision. As with guardianship cases, they are under surveillance by the medical and health visiting staffs.

Occupation Centres and Home Training. These matters were again considered by Committee during the year, but it was deemed impracticable at this juncture to make special provision under this heading.

Licence Discharge and After-Care. In 2 instances during the year Licence from institutions was granted; 2 cases were returned later to institutional care, 2 cases were transferred from guardianship, and 1 to guardianship. In the matter of after-care, systematic advisory supervision is imposed by the medical and health visiting staffs.

1937. ANNUAL RETURNS AS TO MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

		M.	F.	Total.
1.	No. of cases in Institutions ...	48	38	86
2.	No. of cases under Guardianship	10	25	35
3.	No. of cases under Statutory Supervision	121	95	216
3a.	No. of cases in "places of safety"	2	—	2
		—	—	—
		181	158	339
4.	No. of cases receiving :—			
	(a) Indoor Poor Law Relief ...	34	29	63
	(b) Outdoor Poor Law Relief	3	—	3
		—	—	—
		37	29	66
5.	No. of cases under Voluntary Supervision	1	3	4
6.	No. of cases registered in 1937 :—			
	(a) Education Committee Notification	14	9	23
	(b) Ministry of Pensions ...	—	2	2
	(c) Transfer from P.A. Committee	1	—	1
	(d) Parents' request ...	1	1	2
	(e) Prison Authorities ...	1	—	1
	(f) Transfers from other areas ...	1	2	3
	(g) Medical Practitioners ...	—	3	3
7.	No. of cases removed from register			
	1937 :—			
	(a) Left City	—	—	—
	(b) Died	—	2	2
	(c) Removed on marriage ...	—	—	—

(The figures under heading 6 are included under headings 1 to 4 above).

Of the 86 cases shown above as under Institutional care, 2 were at the end of the year on leave of absence. The other 84 cases were maintained in the following institutions :—

Midland Counties' Institution, 25; Stapleton Institution, Bristol, 3; Whittington Hall, Chesterfield, 6; Worcester Municipal Homes, 1; Dudley Institution, 1; Stoke Park Colony, Bristol, 8; Stallington Hall, Stoke-on-Trent, 1; Besford Court, 1; Belmont Nursery, Croydon, 1; St. Teresa's Home, Lewisham, 1; Great Barr Park Colony, 34; Sunfield Home, Birmingham, 1; Bretry Colony, 1.

The average cost of maintenance per case per week of the above 84 patients was 28/-, as compared with 27s. 3½d. on December 31st, 1936.

The total cost of Institutional treatment in 1937, was £5,847 16s. 5d.

TABLE SHEWING CLASSIFICATION OF ALL MENTAL DEFECTIVES ON REGISTER AND HOW DEALT WITH.

Classification.	In Institutions.			Under Guardianship.			Under supervision in own homes.			Grand Totals.		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
Feeble minded ..	34	27	61	6	17	23	87	66	153	127	110	237
Imbeciles ..	15	10	25	4	6	10	27	22	49	46	38	84
Idiots ..	4	1	5	1	..	1	6	7	13	11	8	19
Moral Imbeciles ..	2	2	..	1	1	1	2	3	1	5	6	..
	53	40	93†	11	24	35†	121	97	218*	185	161	346

None of the cases at present maintained by the Public Assistance Committee is included.

† Eight cases included in this table are not a charge on this City. Seven (4 males and 3 females) are in the State Institution; one male under guardianship, was transferred to Coventry, but remains non-chargeable.

* Two cases included here were in a "place of safety."

The Guardianship cases are all under the care of their parents at home and the Mental Deficiency Act Committee makes a weekly grant in each necessitous case. At the 31st December, 1937, there were 29 cases receiving an allowance as shown hereunder :—

5 cases	receiving	16/-	per week.
7 cases	„	15/-	,
2 cases	„	12/6	,
1 case	„	12/-	,
1 case	„	10/6	,
6 cases	„	10/-	,
1 case	„	7/6	,
1 case	„	7/-	,
4 cases	„	5/-	,
1 case	„	3/-	,

The circumstances of each of these cases are reconsidered every six months and the allowances revised, if necessary, in accordance with the information obtained.

Mental Treatment Act, 1930.

Under this Act treatment in a mental hospital or an institution is available without prior certification to persons of unsound mind who are accepted as voluntary applicants for treatment, or for whom temporary treatment is recommended by their medical advisers.

During 1936, the facilities under this Act were utilised as follows :—

1. The No. of patients in Hatton Mental Hospital under this Act on January 1st, 1937, was	... ... ...	Voluntary	26
		Temporary	2
2. The No. of patients admitted during 1937 was	... ... ...	Voluntary	68
		Temporary	11
3. The No. of patients discharged (59) or died (5)	... ... ...	Voluntary	56
		Temporary	8
4. The No. of patients remaining under treatment at the Mental Hospital on December 31st, 1937, was	... ...	Voluntary	34
		Temporary	9
5. Of the 79 patients admitted during 1937, 15 had previously been under treatment in a mental hospital.			
6. The average length of stay in the mental hospital of the 64 patients who were discharged or died during 1937 was 222 days each.			
7. The cost of treatment and maintenance during the year of the 107 patients dealt with was £2,355 17s. 10d. or £22 os. 4d. per patient.			

BLIND PERSONS.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS. SECTION 176, PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

CIRCULAR 1621.

The above-mentioned Circular, setting out the measures possible of adoption in connection with the prevention of blindness, was carefully considered by the Public Health Committee during the year. As a result, it is proposed that the following additional arrangements be made locally, viz. :—

- (i.) A system of voluntary notification by medical practitioners of persons resident in the City area and threatened with blindness will be inaugurated. In respect of each person so notified, the notifying practitioner will be paid one sum of 2/6d.

- (ii.) Notified cases in this connection will be systematically visited by medical officers of the Public Health Department. The object of such visitation will be to secure that the cases avail themselves of facilities for expert treatment or supervision.
- (iii.) Except where the notifying medical practitioner has himself provided or arranged approved treatment or supervision, expert treatment or supervision will be provided or arranged by the Public Health Department. In the latter connection, cases will be referred to the Municipal General Hospital or to the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital or to the Birmingham and Midland Eye Hospital or to the approved Ophthalmic Surgeon.
- (iv.) In suitable necessitous cases appropriate financial assistance will be given to enable the persons concerned to take advantage of facilities for expert treatment or supervision.
- (v.) In cases where there is ability to pay the whole or a part of the cost of expert treatment or supervision, steps will be taken to secure that the persons concerned agree to pay such full or part cost.

The above proposals were under consideration by the Central Department at the year-end.

Fundamental measures in connection with the prevention of blindness are (a) the treatment of gonorrhœa in pregnant women, (b) the routine treatment of babies' eyes at birth, and (c) the notification, following-up and prompt treatment of cases of ophthalmia neonatorum. The local arrangements under these headings are deemed to be satisfactory.

Blind Persons Act, 1920.

The Coventry scheme providing domiciliary assistance to unemployable and other necessitous blind persons has again worked smoothly during the year. The assistance is administered by the Coventry Society for the Blind for and subject to the control of the City Council. During 1937, payments to the amount of £1,536 12s. od. were made by the Corporation for disbursement by the Society.

For the purposes of the employment of blind home workers, Coventry is a party to the general Midland scheme organised by the B.R.I.B. There are 18 approved home workers, and their earned wages are augmented from departmental funds. The maximum weekly amount of augmentation is 12/6 per worker, and the amount of augmentation paid in 1937 was £885 2s. 3d. Instruction, general supervision, materials and Braille literature are supplied by the institution.

The Postmaster kindly reports that, under the Wireless Telegraphy (Facilities for Blind Persons) Act, 108 free licences are in operation on behalf of blind persons in the City.

The following is a substantial extract from the 1937 Annual Report to the City Council of the Coventry Society for the Blind, viz. :—

"The Committee of the Coventry Society for the Blind have pleasure in presenting to the City Council this report of their work on behalf of the blind citizens during the year ended 31st December, 1937.

At the close of the year the number on the register was 191; nine deaths have occurred during the year, five cases have been transferred to Coventry from other areas, and two cases have been transferred out from Coventry. Of the 28 persons who have been sent for examinations to an ophthalmic surgeon, 21 have become registered members, while the remaining seven, certified as 'not blind within the meaning of the Act,' have been recorded as observation cases. Of the latter, one was supplied with glasses to prescription, and another was operated upon for cataract with partial success. There is hope that one man of 26 years, who was registered in June, will, by treatment at the hospital, recover his sight sufficiently to enable him to resume work in the sighted world. The sight of one of the home workers has also improved very much during the year; he has been working in a factory for two months and there is every possibility that his name will be removed from the register after the next examination. Another member was sent to Moorfields in February, in accordance with his wishes. From there he was sent to the London Hospital for blood investigation. He returned to his home in April in a better state of health, and a slight improvement in his sight can now be reported. Glasses have been supplied to prescriptions in seven cases of unregistered persons, for preservation of such sight as remained. The youngest child on the register is 7 years of age, and the oldest member is 92. It is gratifying to have had another year with no blind babies to enter on the register, and we should like to take this opportunity of congratulating Dr. Massey and his staff on this result.

A conference was held in March in Birmingham at the Chamber of Commerce, under the auspices of the Midland Counties' Association for the Blind. This was attended by the Chairman, the Secretary, the Home Visitor and several members of the Committee. Mrs. Ewing was to have spoken on 'The Problems of the Deafened Blind,' but she was prevented by illness from attending, and her paper was read by Miss Brodie, of Manchester University. The paper elicited useful discussion and the evils of much-advertised cheap artificial aids were stressed in a resolution sent to the National Institute for the Deaf.

The Society has received fifteen two-valve loud-speaker wireless sets during the year from the British 'Wireless for the Blind' Fund. It is hoped that the head-phone sets will gradually be replaced by loud-speaker sets. The upkeep of the wireless sets is maintained by the Social Fund; this is felt to be one of the most satisfactory items of expenditure, as it enables all those who have not learned to read Braille or Moon, to keep conversant with current events.

The number of persons employed keeps at about the same level, there being 17 Home Workers and 12 others employed in various capacities, bringing the total to 29.

The social amenities have been frequent during the year, and in this connection we should like to pay tribute to all the churches and organizations that have so consistently come forward year after year to entertain our members with their guides. In many cases, a reminder from the Secretary has not been necessary, the event being included in the programmes as a regular item. A special event was the Coronation Tea, held in Trinity Hall, when some 180 blind persons and guides sat down to a substantial meal and were afterwards entertained by the Frolics Concert Party. The Mayor and Mayoress and the Deputy-Mayor paid a visit during the evening, also the Chairman (Mr. T. E. Friswell) and Mr. Councillor H. E. Greaves. Each blind person received a Coronation gift, 3/- for the adults, and 2/- each for the children.

Mrs. Ray still holds a class for instruction in handicrafts on Tuesday afternoons. This has been well attended, and saleable articles have been made by the members.

Another successful year's trading has to be recorded for the kiosk on the Pool Meadow. It has proved a most satisfactory venture in every way.

Two Fashion Parades of knitwear, made at the Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind, were organised by Mrs. T. E. Friswell and Mrs. R. E. Staner, which were held in the months of March and October in Trinity Hall. They were attended by representative gatherings, and were opened by Mrs. Strickland and Mrs. Oliver Bellasis respectively. The orders resulting from these two Parades were very gratifying.

In conclusion, the Secretary has much pleasure in recording another year of cordial relationships between the Voluntary Society and Dr. Massey and his staff. The Chairman, as always, has been untiring in his practical interest in all concerning the well-being of the blind."

R. E. STANER,

Honorary Secretary.

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL RETURN CONCERNING BLIND PERSONS ON THE REGISTER
OF THE COVENTRY SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND AT DECEMBER 31ST, 1937.

TABLE I. Number of Blind Persons on Register (In age groups.)

Age periods.										Total										
0-5		5-16		16-21		21-30		30-40		40-50		50-60		60-70		70 & over		M.	F.	Total
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	F. per cent
..	..	6	5	8	3	4	4	6	0	12	6	19	14	30	23	22	37	100	91	1

TABLE II.—Age incidence of Blindness amongst those on Register.

Age periods.																		
-1	1-5		5-10		10-20		20-30		30-40		40-50		50-60		60-70		70 & over	
F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
9	2	2	4	3	6	5	10	3	7	5	17	6	16	21	18	19	8	18

TABLE III.—Employment of Blind Persons (Age 16 and over).

Employed	Trained but Unemployed			Under Training			No training but Trainable			Unemployable			Total			
	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Persons		
7	29	1	2	3	71	77	148	94	86	180

TABLE III. (a).—Occupations of those employed.

ca Agent and Firewood Seller	—	Employed in Factory	..	..	1
rap Iron Dealer	..	Newsagent	..	..	—
at Maker	..	Journalist	..	..	1
uners	..	Teacher of Music	..	..	1
asket and Cane Workers	..	Lithographer	..	..	1
oot Repairers	..	Canvasser	..	..	—
nitters	..	Masseuse	..	..	1
ead 'Phone Tester	..	Agent	..	..	1
ypist	..	Manager of Kiosk	..	..	1
rush Makers	..				

TABLE IV.—Physically and Mentally Defective Blind Persons.

Mentally defective (a).	Physically defective (b).				Deaf (c).			Combinations of a, b, c.			Total		
	F.	P.	M.	F.	P.	M.	F.	P.	M.	F.	Persons		
2	4	3	4	7	2	5	7	..	..	..	7	11	18

TABLE V.—School Age Period (5-16). According to Mental or Physical Condition.

ormal	Mentally and Physically defective	Physically defective	Deaf	Total	Total defectives	Percentage defectives
10	1	Nil.	...	11	1	..

WELFARE OF THE DEAF AND DUMB.

During the year, the Warwickshire Deaf and Dumb Society has carried on and extended its valuable work. The activities of the Society appertain to both the City and the Administrative County. The City Council and the County Council make certain annual contributions in this connection, although most of the Society's funds still derive from voluntary sources. Of the various useful branches of work, that concerned with placement warrants special commendation.

The following are data from the 1937 annual report by Mr. Maxwell S. Fry (Secretary-Superintendent) on the work of the Society, viz. :—

Register of Deaf and Dumb. The number on the register of the Society for 1937 is 263, as follows :—

Coventry	...	Males, 67; Females, 58; Total, 125.
Warwickshire	...	Males, 74; Females, 64; Total, 138.

The total number of deaf and dumb in employment is the same as in 1936, and during 1937 there have been no cases of unemployment among able-bodied members.

The numbers of deaf and dumb persons for whom suitable employment was found during the year were :—Adults 7; school-leavers 3.

The Society's welfare work is deemed to be most satisfactory and efficient. The social and recreation side in particular is a big attraction.

The extension of the Society's work is shown by the fact that whereas in 1914 there were but 40 deaf and dumb persons on the books, there were 263 at the end of the year under review.

Health Education

National Health Campaign

Miscellaneous

HEALTH EDUCATION.

NATIONAL HEALTH CAMPAIGN.

The period October-December, 1937, saw the first half of the 1937-8 National Health Campaign conducted by the Central Council for Health Education under Government sanction. Coventry took an active share in the Campaign and full use was made locally of the special propaganda material supplied by the Central Council. Among the local activities in connection with the Campaign were (a) the inauguration of a special public meeting and (b) the organization of a Health Exhibition.

SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING.

This meeting, organized by the Department, was held in the Central Hall, Coventry, on the evening of December 10th, 1937. The chair was taken by the Right Worshipful The Mayor (Alderman Miss Alice Arnold) and the principal speakers were The Rt. Hon. Leslie Burgin, M.P. (Minister of Transport) and the Rt. Hon. Lord Addison (a former Minister of Health). Features of the programme were the displays of physical training given by local groups of the Women's League of Health and Beauty and the Everywoman's Health Movement, and by men students of the Coventry Technical College. The meeting was attended with success and some 600 members of the public were present.

COVENTRY HEALTH EXHIBITION.

The Exhibition, also organised by the Department, was held in the former Rover Showrooms, Warwick Row, Coventry, during the period December 13th-18th, 1937. The Exhibition was open to the public from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. each day, while the mornings were set apart for demonstrations to groups of senior school children. Each afternoon, displays of physical training were given at the Exhibition, and a cinema programme, comprising the latest health publicity films, was given each evening. In addition, cookery demonstrations were arranged each day by the Electricity and Gas Departments of the Corporation.

The stands at the Exhibition comprised the following:— Coventry Public Health Department, the City Libraries, the Electricity Department, the Gas Department, the Water Department, National Council for Maternity and Child Welfare, British Social Hygiene Council, Health and Cleanliness Council, Cremation Society, National Milk Publicity Council, National Smoke Abatement Society, Central Council for Health Education and National Ophthalmic Treatment Board.

In connection with the Exhibition, a comprehensive brochure was issued and distributed widely in the City. This contained a complete summary of the available local health services.

Although it was not possible to keep numerical records, it is deemed that the attendances at the Exhibition were satisfactory.

INFORMATION AT POST OFFICES.

Arrangements were made during the year whereby full information regarding the local health services is available at the post offices in the City.

ROUTINE HEALTH EDUCATIONAL WORK.

In addition to the special effort in connection with the National Campaign, the routine work of health education was carried on normally in the City during the year. The following lectures were given by members of the Public Health Department staff, viz. :—

Date.	Lecture.	Body Addressed.	Speaker.
5.1.37	"Cremation"	Wyken Institute	Dr. A. Massey
14.1.37	"Cremation"	Coventry League of Youth	"
18.1.37	"The Health of the City"	Gosford Street Men's Fellowship	"
16.2.37	"Electrical Amenities and the Public Health"	Women's Electrical Association	"
17.2.37	"The Health of the City"	Earlsdon, Co-operative Guild	"
26.2.37	"The Health of the City"	Cathedral Girls' Fellowship	"
5.3.37	"Physical Education"	Everywoman's Health Movement	"
11.3.37	"Health of the School-girl"	Stoke Park Secondary School Parents' Meeting	"
12.4.37	"Rheumatism and Heart Disease"	Amalgamated Engineering Union	"
2.6.37	"Health in the Home"	Central Co-operative Guild	Miss L. Cureton
3.6.37	"The New Midwifery Service"	Binley Women's Guild	"
28.6.37	"Abatement of Over-crowding"	Coventry Rotary Club	Dr. A. Massey
8.7.37	"Housing in relation to Health"	Wyken Townswomen's Guild	Miss L. Cureton
7.9.37	"The City Health Services"	Radford Co-operative Guild	"
8.9.37	"The New Midwifery Service"	Central Women's Guild	"
27.10.37	"Maternity and Child Welfare Services"	Radford Chapel Women's Class	"
16.11.37	"The City Health Services"	Wyken Co-operative Guild	"
19.11.37	"The Health of the City"	Engineering Union	Dr. A. Ashworth
17.12.37	"Cremation"	Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers	Dr. A. Massey
18.12.37	"Supervision of Food Supplies"	Stoke Congregational Church Meeting	Mr. W. R. Martin

"BETTER HEALTH" JOURNAL.

Articles were contributed each month in the local issue of the above. The journal continues to have a wide circulation in the City, and a wider public is reached by reason of the fact that the local newspapers regularly publish extracts from the journal.

HEALTH ARTICLES IN WORKS MAGAZINES.

Articles on public health matters were again contributed regularly during the year to certain Works' magazines and this is regarded as a valuable means of health propaganda.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

A summary under this heading has been given in previous reports. (See Reports for 1932, 1933 and 1934).

The ambulance services of the City continue to be adequate.

The Public Mortuary was in use on 110 occasions during the year, and the post-mortem room therein was in commission 42 times.

A list of the Local Acts, Adoptive Acts, Bye-laws and Local Regulations in force in the City will be found on pages 121-2 of the 1933 Report. Particulars relating to the public health provisions of the Coventry Corporation Act, 1936, appeared on pages 148-9 of the 1936 Report.

The schedule of causes of death in the City during 1937 is given in the appendix following. The School Medical Report appears on pages 153 to 198.

SCHEDULE OF CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1937.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Total Persons.			CAUSE OF DEATH.	Total Persons.		
		Males.	Females.			Males.	Females.
4). I. Infectious and Parasitic Diseases.				50. Breast	22	1	21
51. Typhoid and para-typhoid fevers :—				51. Male-genito-urinary organs ..	8	8	
1. Typhoid fever	1	1	..	52. Skin	3	2	1
Measles	5	2	3	53. Other or unspecified organs ..	25	11	14
Whooping Cough	6	2	4	a Female genital organs ..	2		2
Diphtheria	7	3	4	b Other sites	1	1	..
Influenza :—				55. Tumours of undetermined nature :—			
With respiratory complications				b Other sites	8	3	5
1. With pneumonic complications	36	21	15	(56-69). III. Rheumatism, Diseases of Nutrition and of Endocrine Glands, and Other General Diseases.			
2. With other respiratory complications ..	14	6	8	56. Rheumatic fever	17	5	12
Without respiratory complications :				59. Diabetes	14	2	12
1. with non-respiratory complications	9	4	5	66. Diseases of the thyroid and parathyroid glands :—			
2. without stated complications ..	16	9	7	b Exophthalmic goitre ..	3	1	2
Erysipelas	3	2	1	67. Diseases of the thymus ..	1	1	..
Acute poliomyelitis :—				69. Other general diseases :—			
1. Acute poliomyelitis	1	1	..	2. Other diseases included under 69	3	1	2
Encephalitis lethargica	1	1	..	(70-74). IV. Diseases of the Blood and Blood-forming Organs.			
Cerebro-spinal fever	19	17	2	70. Haemorrhagic conditions :—			
23-32. Tuberculosis (all forms)				a Purpura	4	3	1
Respiratory system	122	61	61	71. Anaemia, Chlorosis :—			
Central nervous system	19	14	5	a Pernicious anaemia ..	8	3	5
Intestines and Peritoneum	4	1	3	72. Leukæmia, Aleukæmia :—			
Vertebral column	1	1	..	a Leukæmia	7	4	3
Other bones and joints	1	1	..	b Aleukæmia (Lymphadenoma) ..	4	1	3
Lymphatic system (abdominal and bronchial glands ex.) ..	2	..	2	(75-77). V—Chronic Poisoning.			
Genito-urinary system	1	1	..	75. Alcoholism	1	..	1
Disseminated tuberculosis :—							
Acute	4	3	1				
Chronic	1	1	..				
Syphilis :—							
Congenital syphilis	2	1	1	(76-89). VI. Disease of the Nervous System and Sense Organs.			
Acquired or unspecified	6	5	1	78. Encephalitis :—			
Purulent infection, Septicæmia, Septicæmia				a Cerebral abscess	3	2	1
Pyæmia	3	2	1	b Other diseases included under 78	2	2	..
55). II. Cancer and Other Tumours.	1	1	..	79. Meningitis	9	4	5
33. Cancer, Malignant disease :—				81. Other diseases of the spinal cord :—			
Buccal cavity and pharynx	9	8	1	3. Myelitis of unstated origin ..	3	1	2
Digestive organs and peritoneum :—				4. Other diseases included under 81	2	2	..
Oesophagus	13	11	2	82. Cerebral haemorrhage, apoplexy, etc. :—			
Stomach and duodenum	87	49	38	a Cerebral haemorrhage ..			
Rectum	28	23	5	1. Cerebral haemorrhage (so returned) ..	72	39	33
Liver and biliary passages	6	3	3	2. Apoplexy (lesion unstated) ..	1	1	..
Pancreas	12	5	7				
Respiratory organs	26	19	7				
Uterus	15	..	15				
Other female genital organs ..	10	..	10				

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Total Persons.	Males.	Females.	CAUSE OF DEATH.	Total Persons.	Males.	Females.
b Cerebral embolism and thrombosis:				97. Arterio-sclerosis:—			
1. Cerebral embolism ..	2	1	1	1. Arterio-sclerosis, with cerebral haemorrhage	33	19	14
2. Cerebral thrombosis ..	22	12	10	2. Arterio-sclerosis, with record of cerebral vascular lesion	11	2	9
c Hemiplegia and other paralysis of unstated origin:—				3. Without record of cerebral vasc. lesion	42	33	9
1. Hemiplegia	5	3	2	98. Gangrene:—			
83. General paralysis of the insane	2	1	1	a Senile gangrene	4	3	1
84. Other forms of insanity:—				b Other gangrene	2	1	1
b Other conditions incl. under 84	2	1	1	99. Other diseases of the arteries	4	2	2
85. Epilepsy	7	2	5	100. Diseases of the veins (Varix, haemorrhoids, phlebitis, etc.)			
86. Infantile convulsions (age under 5 years)	8	5	3	1. Varix	1	1	..
87. Other diseases of the nervous system:—				2. Other diseases of the veins	3	1	2
b Neuritis, Neuralgia	1	..	1	101. Diseases of the lymphatic system (lymphangitis, etc.)	2	2	..
c Paralysis agitans	5	2	3	102. Abnormalities of blood pressure	23	10	13
d Disseminated sclerosis	1	1	..				
e Other diseases included under 87	4	1	3				
88. Diseases of the eye and annexa	1	1	..	(104-114) VIII. Diseases of the Respiratory System.			
89. Diseases of the ear and mastoid sinus:—				106. Bronchitis:—			
a Otitis, and other diseases of the ear	1	..	1	a Acute bronchitis	42	18	24
b Diseases of the mastoid sinus (90-103) VII. Diseases of the Circulatory System.	1	..	1	b Chronic bronchitis	37	23	14
90. 95. Heart disease:				c Bronchitis, not distinguished as acute or chronic	29	16	13
90. Pericarditis	3	2	1	107-109. Pneumonia (all forms)			
91. Acute Endocarditis:—				107. Broncho-pneumonia	85	49	36
1. Malignant endocarditis ..	5	3	2	108. Lobar pneumonia	57	37	20
2. Other acute endocarditis ..	4	1	3	109. Pneumonia (not otherwise defined)	16	10	6
92. Chronic Endocarditis: valvular disease:—				110. Pleurisy:—			
1. Aortic valve disease ..	5	4	1	1. Empyema	6	6	..
2. Mitral	20	5	15	2. Other pleurisy	3	1	2
3. Aortic and Mitral valve disease	2	1	1	111. Congestion and haemorrhagic infarct of lung, etc.:—			
5. Other or unspecified valve disease	16	8	8	1. Hypostatic congestion of lungs	9	6	3
93. Diseases of the Myocardium:—				2. Other diseases included under 111	2	..	2
b Myocardial degeneration:—				112. Asthma	10	5	5
1. Fatty heart	5	2	3	113. Pulmonary emphysema ..	1	..	1
2. Cardio-vascular degeneration ..	5	1	4	114. Other diseases of the respiratory system:—			
3. Other diseases included under 93b	282	134	148	a Chronic interstitial pneumonia, including occupational diseases of the lung ..	1	1	..
c Myocarditis, not returnable as acute or chronic	79	37	42	b Other diseases, included under 114:—			
94. Diseases of the coronary arteries, Angina pectoris	37	27	10	2. Other diseases incl. under 114b	1	1	..
95. Other diseases of the heart:—							
a Disordered action of heart	27	10	17	(115-129) IX. Diseases of the Digestive System.			
b Other diseases included under 95:—				115. Diseases of the buccal cavity, pharynx, etc.:—			
1. Dilatation of heart (cause unspecified)	2	..	2	3. Diseases of the tonsils ..	3	2	1
2. Heart diseases (undefined)	3	3	..	4. Other diseases incl. under 115	2	1	1
96. Aneurysm	1	1	..				

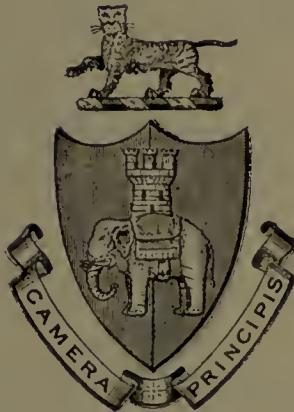
CAUSE OF DEATH.	Total Persons.	Males.	Females.	CAUSE OF DEATH.	Total Persons.	Males.	Females.
7. Ulcer of the stomach or duodenum:—				137. Diseases of the prostate ..	12	12	..
z Ulcer of the stomach	9	9	..	139. Diseases of the female genital organs:—			
z Ulcer of the duodenum	9	8	1	a Diseases of the ovary, Fallopian tube and parametrium :—	1	..	1
3. Other diseases of the stomach:—				2. Diseases of the Fallopian tube ..	1	..	1
1. Inflammation of the stomach	3	1	2	3. Diseases of the parametrium ..	2	..	2
120. Diarrhoea and enteritis:—				b Diseases of the uterus	(140-150). XI. Diseases of Pregnancy, Child-birth and the Puerperal State.		
n Diarrhoea and enteritis				140-145. Puerperal sepsis:—			
1. Colitis	1	1	..	141. Abortion not returned as septic:—			
2. Other diarrhoea and enteritis	25	16	9	2. Without record of haemorrhage ..	2	..	2
5. Ulceration of intestines	5	1	4	143. Other accidents of pregnancy ..	1	..	1
1. Appendicitis	17	9	8	144. Puerperal haemorrhage:—			
2. Hernia, intestinal obstruction:—				b Other puerperal haemorrhage ..	1	..	1
a) Hernia	1	1	..	145. Puerperal sepsis not returned as post-abortion:—			
1. Strangulated hernia	7	5	2	a Puerperal septicæmia	1	..	1
2. Hernia not returned as strangulated	5	1	4	146. Puerperal albuminuria and convulsions:—			
b) Intestinal obstruction	7	3	4	1. Puerperal convulsions ..	2	..	2
3. Other diseases of the intestines:—				148. Puerperal phlegmasia alba dolens, embolism and sudden death:—			
2. Diverticulitis	1	..	1	b Puerperal embolism and sudden death	1	..	1
3. Other diseases incl. under 123	1	..	1	150. Other or unspecified conditions of the puerperal state:—			
4. Cirrhosis of the liver:—				1. Puerperal insanity	2	..	2
a) Returned as alcoholic	2	1	1	(151-153). XII. Diseases of the Skin and Cellular Tissue.			
5. Other diseases of the liver:—				151. Carbuncle, Boil	1	..	1
1. Acute yellow atrophy	1	..	1	153. Other diseases of the skin and its annexa	1	1	..
2. Other diseases incl. under 125	2	1	1	154-156). XIII. Diseases of the Bones and Organs of Locomotion.			
7. Other diseases of the gall bladder and ducts:—				154. Acute infective osteomyelitis and periostitis	3	1	2
1. Cholecystitis, without record of biliary calculi	4	..	4	155. Other diseases of the bones ..	1	..	1
8. Diseases of the pancreas	1	1	..	156. Diseases of the joints and other organs of locomotion			
9. Peritonitis, without stated cause	6	1	5	a Diseases of the joints	2	..	2
10-139) X. Non-Venereal Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System and Annexa.				(157.) XIV. Congenital Malformations.			
132. Nephritis:—				157. Congenital malformations:—			
D. Acute nephritis	5	2	3	a Congenital hydrocephalus ..	1	1	..
L. Chronic nephritis	28	14	14	b Spina bifida and meningocele ..	6	3	3
2. Nephritis, not stated to be acute or chronic	7	7	..	c Congenital malformation of heart	6	5	1
3. Other diseases of the kidney and annexa:—				e Other congenital malformations			
z Pyelitis	2	1	1	1. Congenital pyloric stenosis ..	1	1	..
n Other diseases included under 133	1	..	1	2. Cleft palate, Harelip ..	1	..	1
34. Calculi of the urinary passages:—				4. Other stated congenital malformations	1	1	..
z Calculi of kidney and ureter	1	..	1				
5. Diseases of the bladder:—							
z Cystitis	1	1	..				
n Other diseases of the bladder	1	1	..				
3. Diseases of the urethra, urinary abscess, etc.:—							
z Stricture of the urethra	4	3	1				

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Total Persons.	Males.	Females.	CAUSE OF DEATH.	Total Persons.	Males.	Females.
(158-161). XV. Diseases of Early Infancy.				176-194. Accidental deaths : 180. Conflagration	2	1	1
158. Congenital debility	13	9	4	181. Accidental burns (conflagration excepted)	5	1	4
159. Premature birth	39	15	24	182. Accidental mechanical suffocation	2	2	..
160. Injury at birth : b Without mention of Cæsarian section	9	5	4	183. Accidental drowning	2	..	2
161. Other diseases peculiar to early infancy :— a Atelectasis	6	3	3	186. Accidental injury by fall, crushing, etc.	68	48	20
c Other diseases incl. under 161 :	1	..	1	193. Electricity (lightning excepted)	1	1	..
(162). XVI. Old Age.				194. Other and unstated forms of accidental violence : 1. Inattention at birth	1	..	1
162. Old age :— a Senile dementia	2	..	2	2. Other causes, incl under 194	2	1	1
b Other forms of senile decay	53	15	38	195. Violent deaths of unstated nature (i.e., accidental, suicidal, etc.)	4	..	4
(163-198). XVII. Deaths from Violence.				196. Wounds of war	1	1	..
163-171. Suicide :—				(199-200). XVIII. Ill-defined Diseases.			
163. By solid or liquid poisons and corrosive substances	5	2	3	200. Cause of death unstated or ill-defined :—			
164. By poisonous gas	12	6	6	1. Heart failure	1	1	..
165. By hanging or strangulation	3	2	1	Totals	2156	1134	102
166. By drowning	8	7	1				
168. By cutting or piercing instruments	5	4	1				
170. By crushing	1	1	..				
172-175. Homicide :—							
175. Homicide by other means	1	..	1				

CORLEY OPEN-AIR SCHOOL. CLASS WORK IN PROGRESS.



CITY OF COVENTRY.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR

1937.

National Fitness Campaign which is now in active progress under Government sanction. The local "Keep Fit Classes" organised by the Education Committee are making a notable contribution in this sphere. Nevertheless a still wider local programme is necessary, both in the schools and outside them, before the standard envisaged by the Board of Education in Circular 1445 is attained.

Linked with the matter of physical training is that of adequate nutrition. Either without the other fails in its purpose. It is good to record that the observations of the school medical officers during the year indicate an improved nutritional state in Coventry school children. Favourable local economic circumstances are here relevant although some countervailing influence might have been expected from the free addition to the school population of immigrant children from less prosperous areas.

The Corley Residential Open-Air School continues to yield generous health returns. As in previous years so in 1937 large numbers of delicate children were restored by the ministrations of the School to health and educational capacity.

A new departure in the sphere of popular health education was the organization by the Public Health Department of a Health Exhibition held in the Rover Showrooms during the period December 13th—18th, 1937. The morning sessions at the Exhibition were devoted to senior school children, of whom a large number attended. This may properly be regarded as sound educational policy.

The matter of Juvenile Employment has important potential relationships with the school medical service. In this connection it is noteworthy that the 1937 Factories Act provides for the supply to examining factory surgeons, on request, of school medical records appertaining to intending entrants to industry. It is vitally important that school-leavers should enter vocations reasonably suited to their physical and mental make-up.

The various tables, as required by the Board of Education, are given at the end of the main report. They constitute a complete picture in figures of the year's work.

A useful liaison between the school medical section and other local health services has again been maintained. The work of a busy year has been assisted appreciably by the unfailing interest shown by the Chairman and Members of the Attendance and Physical Welfare Sub-Committee, and by the cordial co-operation of the Director of Education. In conclusion, I have particular pleasure in thanking all members of my staff for their loyal and efficient services.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

The Council House,
Coventry.

A. MASSEY,
School Medical Officer.

January 28th, 1938.

Schools, Accommodation, Attendance, etc.

The following particulars obtained at the year end :—

Schools.

32	Elementary Council Schools with	64	departments.
12	Elementary C.E. Schools with	13	"
5	Elementary R.C. Schools with	6	"
—		—	
49		83	
—		—	

Accommodation and Attendance.

Recognised accommodation of all Elementary Schools ...	28,610
Total Number of Children on registers (at year-end) ...	24,619
Average Number of Children on registers (during year)	24,315
Average Number of Children in attendance (during year)	21,063
Average Percentage Attendance for the year ...	... 86.6

The local schools in general comply with hygienic requirements. Such remediable sanitary defects as were noted by the medical inspectors during the year were reported to the appropriate quarter and subsequently remedied.

Difficulties in the matter of school accommodation arise firstly in regard to location of schools in view of the movements of school population within the City consequent upon schemes of slum clearance and rehousing, and secondly in regard to the quantitative aspect in the light of the increase of school population due to immigration. These difficulties are being dealt with as quickly as possible, and during the year under review two new permanent schools and one new temporary school were inaugurated as follows :—

January, 1937. New Wyken Council School opened with accommodation for 450 pupils. This school replaced the former Wyken Temporary School which consisted of wooden buildings. The latter were transferred to Canley.

April, 1937. New Coundon School opened with accommodation for 500 pupils.

May, 1937. Temporary School at Canley opened with accommodation for 192 pupils.

Medical Inspection.

See Table I., page 187. During the year under review 8,562 elementary school children were subjected to routine medical inspection. There were also 9,658 special inspections or re-inspections. The age groups inspected are: Group I., children aged 5 and 6 years; Group II., children aged 8 years; Group III., children aged 12 years and such children of 13 or 14 years as were not previously examined when 12 years old.

The comparative figures given below refer to the principal defects found at routine medical inspections and requiring treatment :—

DEFECT.	Coventry, 1937.		England and Wales, 1936.
	No. of Children ascertained.	Incidence per 1,000 inspections.	Incidence per 1,000 inspections
Skin Diseases ..	.. 53	6·2	9·4
Visual Defects ..	346*	60·9	76·3
Squint ..	55	6·4	7·7
Other Eye Diseases ..	36	4·2	6·8
Defects of Hearing ..	5	0·6	2·9
Otitis Media ..	23	2·7	4·0
Enlarged Tonsils ..	335	39·1	20·6
Adenoids ..	79	9·2	2·8
Tonsils and Adenoids ..	159	18·6	20·1
Defective Speech ..	4	0·5	1·3
Spinal Curvature ..	6	0·7	2·5
Other Deformities ..	141	16·5	8·2

* This figure refers to 2nd and 3rd age-group children only.

State of Nutrition of School Children.

The table herewith shows the percentages of the various degrees of nutrition noted during the year at routine medical inspections. The difficulty of arriving at anything approaching a uniform standard of assessment of the nutritional state has been explained in previous reports. It is inevitable that the medical assessors should come to regard the average as the normal, although the average in one area may differ from that in another. Thus it is difficult accurately to compare nutrition findings area by area. There is less source of error in comparing the figures year by year in the same area. In this connection, the following local figures are given, *viz.* :—

Year.	Total No. of Children Inspected.	DEGREES OF NUTRITION.			
		A (Excellent)	B (Normal)	C (Slightly Sub-Normal)	D (Bad)
		Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
1937	8,562	28·3	62·6	8·9	0·2
1936	7,914	24·3	61·6	13·8	0·2
1935	7,748	17·1	66·8	15·9	0·2

The above figures indicate an improved nutritional state in Coventry school children during 1937 despite such influences as may have been exercised by the addition to the school population

of a considerable number of immigrant children from less prosperous areas.

Prior to 1935 the recognised system of grouping the various degrees of nutrition was different from that now employed and shown in the table above. Thus there is little point in essaying to compare the figures of previous years with those appertaining to the period 1935-7.

The now improving state of nutrition in school children is not unconnected with the current "milk-in-schools scheme." All authentic reports indicate the supreme value of milk as an article of diet. Milk is, in fact, the only single substance which in itself contains all the essential elements for promoting growth and enhancing nutrition in the human body.

NUTRITION.

(Findings at Routine Inspections).

		Number of Children Inspected	DEGREES OF NUTRITION.								
ENTRANTS.	Boys		A (EXCELLENT)		B (NORMAL)		C (SLIGHTLY SUB-NORMAL)		D (BAD)		
			No.	Per Cent.	No.	Per Cent.	No.	Per Cent.	No.	Per Cent.	
ENTRANTS.	Boys	1423	309	21.8	970	68.2	138	9.6	6	.4	
	Girls	1456	411	28.2	900	61.8	141	9.7	4	.3	
2ND AGE GROUP.	Boys	1251	298	23.8	637	66.9	113	9.0	3	.2	
	Girls	1284	393	30.6	774	60.3	116	9.0	1	.1	
3RD AGE GROUP.	Boys	1525	410	26.8	964	63.2	149	9.8	2	.1	
	Girls	1332	514	38.6	732	55.0	83	6.2	3	.2	
TOTAL AGE GROUPS		8271	2335	28.2	5177	62.6	740	8.9	19	.2	
OTHER ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.	Boys	137	35	25.5	94	68.6	8	5.8	..	..
	Girls	154	53	34.4	85	55.2	16	10.4	..	..
TOTAL ROUTINE INSPECTIONS		8562	2423	28.3	5356	62.6	764	8.9	19	.2	

Uncleanliness.

The table herewith gives the returns for 1937 under this heading. The total percentage of children ascertained during the year as being in a state of uncleanliness was 9.3, as compared with 10.3 in the previous year. Cleansing notices issued under

Section 87 of the Education Act, 1921, numbered 93, and 73 children were cleansed pursuant of these powers. There were 856 baths given in relation to uncleanliness and in the treatment of scabies. The nurses made 59,951 examinations of children in the schools in connection with the ascertainment of uncleanliness and in the following-up of established cases.

UNCLEANLINESS (Returns for 1937).

Age Groups.	No. Examined.	Total unclean (Heads and Bodies).	Percentage	Heads only unclean (ver- minous or nits)	Percentage.	Heads and Bodies unclean (vermin or nits with flea bites).	Percentage.	Bodies only unclean (flea bites).	Percentage.
ENTRANTS ...	2879	308	10·7	284	9·9	9	·3	15	·5
2ND AGE GROUP	2535	241	9·5	222	8·8	7	·3	12	·5
3RD AGE GROUP	2857	212	7·4	199	6·9	6	·2	7	·3
OTHER ROUTINE INSPECTIONS ...	291	36	12·4	34	11·7	1	·3	1	·3
Totals ...	8562	797	9·3	789	8·6	23	·3	35	·4

Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.

Particulars are included on page 166, and Table IV., page 191. An increased incidence of scabies was noted, and 161 cases were treated at the School Clinic during the year. Dr. J. Fielding reports as follows in this connection :—

“The loss of schooling on account of scabies is considerable. Every effort has to be made to check the incidence of the condition, which, if initially neglected, gives rise to secondary cases and becomes itself more difficult to cure. Some 70 children attended at a late stage for treatment and consequently the scabies lesions were found to be impetiginous. The spread of scabies in families is commonly associated with conditions of overcrowding in the home. In such cases it is common to hear that all or most members of a family have “spots.” Infection from child to child in school must be uncommon as compared with propagation in certain types of home. Out of the 161 cases, 80 occurred in 35 families. The loss of schooling due to scabies averaged 14 days per child. The treatment of cases at the School Clinic is on the prescribed lines, and the clothing and bedding of each affected child are steam disinfected.”

Visual Defects and External Eye Disease.

The reader is referred to the table on page 166, and to Tables II. and IV. on pages 188 and 191. The figures in the accompanying table refer to the cases seen during the year by the ophthalmic surgeon, Mr. Harrison Butler.

FUSION TRAINING IN THE TREATMENT OF SQUINT.

An orthoptic section is included in the ophthalmic department of the New School Clinic and was inaugurated on May 3rd, 1937. Miss Denise E. Woods, a trained orthoptic assistant, was duly appointed to this branch, and two afternoon sessions are held weekly. The figures relating to the orthoptic section for the period May—December, 1937, are set out below, *viz.* :—

Total number of attendances	...	...	...	442
Average number of patients per session	...	...	...	8
Number of cases under treatment at year-end	...	...	...	10
Number of cases under observation at year-end	...	...	...	7
Number of cases discharged cured	...	...	...	4

In addition, cases are sent up regularly by the ophthalmic surgeon for investigation and test where no treatment is carried out.

The average time for a cure by orthoptic treatment is in the region of twelve months with some 100 attendances. Thus the orthoptic section has not yet been in operation long enough to show a full complement of cured cases.

DEFECTIVE VISION (Returns for 1937).

	ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.			SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN.	
	City Cases.	County Children attending City Schools			
		No.	Per Cent.	No.	Per Cent.
Refracted	812		9	61
Glasses prescribed	666		7	56
Attendances made	1644		13	76
Myopia	138	16·9	1	11·1
Myopic Astigmatism	...	91	11·2	2	22·2
Hypermetropia	130	16·0	3	33·3
Hypermetropic Astigmatism	289	35·6	—	—	11
Mixed Astigmatism	18	2·2	1	11·1	2
No glasses prescribed	...	146	17·9	2	22·2

Nose and Throat Defects.

See Tables II. and IV., pages 188 and 191. The following figures relate to the operation cases completed under the Authority's scheme during the year, *viz.* :—

Total operative cases	...	...	...	...	266
Combined Ts. and As. operation	...	...	...	...	253
Tonsillectomy only	...	...	...	...	6
Adenoids operation only	...	...	...	...	7

Ear Disease and Defective Hearing.

Defects under this heading, ascertained in the course of medical inspection, are shown on page 188, and those treated at the central and branch clinics on pages 166 and 191.

Dental Work.

In previous reports the numerical insufficiency of school dental staff has been mentioned. During the greater part of 1937 this still obtained and the resultant restriction of the work, as in former years, took the form of the omission in numerous schools of routine dental inspection. Happily, however, towards the end of the year the staff of full-time school dentists was increased from two to four.

Mr. M. Raeside, L.D.S., the senior school dentist, presents the following report concerning the work of the Dental Section :—

"Since the last report was published it is pleasing to record that working conditions have been greatly improved since the new Clinic was opened in April, 1937.

On the 1st December two additional dentists joined the staff, namely, Mr. A. L. Robinson, B.D.S., and Mr. R. B. Vause, L.D.S., and extra assistance was also provided by the appointment of two additional dental attendants.

The outlook for the future is therefore promising, although even with the augmented staff and all four surgeries in the new building occupied, the dental scheme is not yet ideal. The dental service is still somewhat under-staffed in comparison with the school population (24,000), and in view of the rapid annual increase of the City population it may prove difficult to cope adequately with all the children requiring treatment.

Parents living in the outlying parts of the City sometimes refuse treatment on account of distance from the Central Clinic. This difficulty could be overcome by establishing Branch Clinics in the suburbs, and this is a matter which might be considered by the Committee in the future.

Owing to the large number of applicants for treatment it was again found impossible during the year to carry out routine dental inspections in the majority of the schools. It is now intended, however, with the increased staff, to remedy this important feature of the service and to include extra age groups in the scheme.

For the period under review, 4,117 cases were treated; of this number, 3,005 were children of the systematic age groups 6, 7, 8 and 9, the remaining 1,112 belonging to other ages or 'Specials.'

In addition, 194 secondary school children and 101 pre-school children (referred from Maternity and Child Welfare Centres) were treated. Also, children proceeding to the Corley Open-Air School were made dentally fit before admission.

The assistance given and the general interest shown by head teachers and others in the various schools during the year are warmly appreciated.

The table below shows the details of the treatment carried out during 1937":—

		Elementary School Children.	Secondary School Children.	Infant Welfare Cases.	Total.
Fillings :—					
Permanent Teeth	...	3188	349	—	3537
Temporary Teeth	...	98	—	16	114
Extractions :—					
Permanent Teeth	...	1297	119	—	1416
Temporary Teeth	...	5499	34	120	5653
Other Operations	...	136	16	—	152
Examination and Advice only	...	355	23	15	393
Attendances	...	6488	444	126	7058

Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

See Tables II., page 188, and Tables III. and IV., pages 190 and 192. The figures below relate to the incidence of crippling conditions in school children at the year end, *viz.* :—

		Boys.	Girls.	Totals.
Infantile Paralysis :—				
Arm	...	1	1	2
Leg	...	11	5	16
Arm and Leg	...	2	2	4
Shoulder	...	1	—	1
Deformed Feet	...	5	5	10
Congenital Dislocation of Hip	...	1	11	12
Cerebral Palsy	...	1	—	1
Muscular Atrophy	...	1	—	1
Erb's Palsy	...	3	—	3
Spinal Curvature :—				
Kyphosis	...	5	4	9
Scoliosis	...	10	17	27
Lordosis	...	1	1	2
Rickets :—				
Knock Knee	...	30	36	66
Bow Legs	...	17	14	31
Generalised	...	3	1	4
Chest	...	5	3	8
Flat Feet	...	81	80	161
Wry Neck	...	5	1	6
Accident	...	12	6	18
Miscellaneous	...	22	31	53
Congenital Deformity	...	17	8	25
Cleft Palate	...	13	3	16
Perthe's Disease	...	3	1	4
Spastic Paraplegia	...	1	2	3
Hemiplegia	...	1	—	1
Other Deformities	...	13	11	24
Totals... .		265	243	508

There were 158 cases referred during the year to the Organiser of Physical Training for special remedial exercises in connection with bad posture and like conditions.

Heart Disease and Rheumatism.

See Table II., page 188, and Table III., page 190. There were 108 cases of heart trouble noted in local elementary school children during the year. Of these, 64 were diagnosed as organic and 44 inorganic. There is no special clinic in the City for rheumatic and heart cases, although there are ample facilities for advice, observation and treatment for such cases at local general hospitals and medical clinics.

Tuberculosis.

See Tables II. and III., pages 188 and 190. At routine inspections, no case of definite tuberculosis was ascertained, but 1 definite and 1 suspected pulmonary case and 18 definite non-pulmonary cases were ascertained at special inspections.

In so far as non-pulmonary tuberculosis is concerned it cannot be emphasised too often that the general abandonment of raw ungraded milk supplies in favour of tuberculin-tested milk and pasteurized milk would largely provide a solution to the problem. With these things in mind pasteurized milk only is sanctioned in connection with the local "milk-in-schools scheme."

Follow-up Work.

The figures below show the numbers of home visits by school nurses in connection with their "follow-up" work.

Condition.		Visits Paid.
Eye Defects	.. .. ..	505
Nose and Throat Defects	.. ..	972
Diphtheria	.. .. ..	3
Skin Diseases	.. .. ..	61
Re Corley Open-Air School	.. ..	11
Ringworm	.. .. ..	13
Miscellaneous	.. .. ..	375
TOTAL		1940

In addition to the home visitation, 1,962 visits were made to schools by nurses.

Arrangements for Treatment.

New Central School Clinic, Gulson Road.

Reference to the new Combined Clinic has been made in previous School Medical Reports (1935 and 1936) and a plan of the Clinic was given in the 1935 Annual Health Report. Building work was commenced in February, 1936, and completed in March, 1937.

The new Combined Clinic was formally opened on April 2nd, 1937, and was brought into commission on April 6th, 1937.

The School Clinic portion occupies the first floor of the new building and comprises :—(i.) Minor ailments clinic, (ii.) cleansing

room, (iii.) eye clinic, (iv.) light therapy room, (v.) dental unit including four surgeries, waiting-room and recovery-room, (vi.) doctors', dentists' and nurses' rooms, (vii.) office and (viii.) cloak-rooms, etc. The layout of the dental unit is noteworthy in that it is so arranged that the children waiting or entering for treatment cannot in any way encounter those recovering from or leaving after treatment.

Notable features of equipment are the orthoptic or fusion-training apparatus (for the special treatment of squint) in the eye clinic, the light-therapy unit and the latest dental units, each comprising dental engine, shadowless operating light, and spittoon.

The cost of the combined clinic building was £12,630 excluding site. The land comprising the site was formerly a part of the grounds of the Municipal General Hospital. In regard to furniture and equipment generally, the serviceable items were transferred from two pre-existing clinics now superseded. The cost of additional furniture and equipment for the School Clinic portion was about £1,000.

The former Central School Clinic in King Street, concerning which adverse comments of necessity were made in past annual reports, is now replaced by the new Clinic and the work is benefiting both quantitatively and qualitatively as a consequence.

Clinic Sessions.

The current arrangements in regard to clinic sessions are set out below :—

CENTRAL SCHOOL CLINIC, GULSON ROAD.

Inspection Clinic	...	... Tuesday and Friday afternoons, Saturday mornings.
Treatment Clinic	...	... Daily at 4-15 p.m.
Dental Clinic	...	... Daily 9-30—12-30 and 2—5 p.m. except Monday and Thursday afternoons.
Refraction Clinic	...	Saturdays 9-30—12 noon. Wednesdays 9-30 a.m. and 2 p.m.
Orthoptic Clinic	...	... Mondays and Fridays at 2 p.m.
Artificial Sunlight Treatment		Mondays at 2 p.m. and Thursdays at 9-30 a.m.

BRANCH CLINICS.

Windmill Road School.

Consultations	...	... Tuesdays 4 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m.
Treatment	...	... Tuesdays and Thursdays 3 p.m.

Binley School.

Consultations	...	... First Saturday morning of alter- nate months.
Treatment	...	... Saturdays 9-30 a.m.

Whoberley School.

Consultations ... First Saturday morning of alternate months.
 Treatment ... Saturdays 9-30 a.m.

Ringworm—X-Ray Treatment By appointment.

Nose and Throat Operative Clinic By appointment.

The following table gives the number of attendances for treatment at the minor ailment clinics during 1937:—

CONDITION.	Central Clinic, Gulson Road.		Windmill Rd. School Branch Clinic		Binley School Branch Clinic.		Whoberley School Branch Clinic.	
	Cases.	Attendances.	Cases.	Attendances.	Cases.	Attendances.	Cases.	Attendances.
Skin :—								
Ringworm—scalp ..	5	31	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ringworm—body ..	18	141	7	35	1	1	—	—
Scabies ..	161	1949	18	71	7	40	15	100
Impetigo ..	189	449	83	547	43	60	56	232
Other skin diseases	36	372	30	216	—	—	—	—
Minor Eye Defects :—								
Blepharitis ..	48	392	10	88	4	22	7	22
Conjunctivitis ..	56	456	—	—	3	4	2	3
Pblyctenular ulcer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Corneal ulcer ..	2	22	—	—	—	—	—	—
Styes ..	39	130	5	12	1	8	4	14
Minor Ear Defects :—								
Otorrhœa ..	88	1890	30	484	8	22	8	74
Wax ..	140	157	5	12	2	4	—	—
Miscellaneous :—								
Septic conditions ..	134	978	32	177	—	—	—	—
Sores ..	162	578	132	672	39	90	56	156
Boils ..	34	223	18	71	4	10	4	10
Chilblains ..	6	10	3	12	—	—	2	2
Warts ..	26	144	13	92	12	38	3	24
Injuries ..	135	604	103	446	17	64	16	34
Other conditions ..	29	140	158	369	—	—	61	100
Totals ..	1308	8666	647	3254	141	363	234	771

Light Therapy Clinic.

Dr. J. Fielding reports as follows on the initial working of the above:—

"The light therapy clinic was opened in the latter half of the year, the Alpine Sun Lamp being used for all cases. The use of the lamp was, as regards the Clinic, a new departure. The routine of attendance has now become organised and parents and teachers have become aware of the availability of the new service. Two sessions per week are devoted to this treatment.

Most of the children chosen for treatment were selected at the systematic examinations in the schools; others were referred by teachers, by parents and occasionally by private medical practitioners. In the main the children dealt with are the sub-normal ones with scanty or no physical signs.

They have been classified into three main groups comprising the debilitated, the catarrhal and the anaemic. The predominant sign or

symptom was taken to decide into which group the child could be most conveniently placed, although usually most of the children also had symptoms referable to one or both of the other two classes.

The general impression is that there has been improvement in each group as a result of the light treatment.

Clinically, there is some little difficulty in proving that the children have benefited. They have been examined from time to time in the presence of their parents, and recordings of height and weight have been made and the opinion of the parents sought.

Briefly it would appear that the tonic effect of the rays causes the children to enjoy better appetites, to have more restful nights, to be less irritable and to display an increase of energy. For most of these points reliance is placed on what the parents have noticed for themselves, and yet it would seem that in some cases their opinions as to progress were a little highly coloured. Perhaps it is a question of striving to please, but it may be misleading, especially when the value of the treatment is being assessed.

On the other hand, studying a child from day to day, seeing him eating meals hitherto declined, noticing that the child will now go out to play instead of lolling about, and that he is bright and fresh in a morning, must mean that there has been some improvement in the child's condition.

The 33 children who make up the body of this report have only lately finished their course of treatment. They will be followed up to discover whether the improvement is permanent.

The nursing staff have also noticed that the child dull in bearing is now brighter, the miserable looking happier and more contented, and the fretful less given to tears.

If light therapy helps such children as are not well endowed physically, then the extra work which the treatment entails will be done readily, and the impression is that the time which has already been spent in the Central Clinic on administering artificial sunlight has been worth while.

The number of cases so far dealt with is small and it is therefore difficult to draw definite conclusions. Of the 64 cases treated, 33 attended regularly and completed treatment, 10 attended irregularly, 10 were still attending at the year-end, and 11 ceased attendances.

The following are the particulars relating to completed cases, viz. :—

	Catarrhal	Debilitated	Anæmic
No. of Children ...	6	16	11
Average period of treatment ...	14 weeks	13 weeks	13·5 weeks
Average No. of doses...	28	26	27
Average strength of doses ...	8 minutes	9 minutes	8 mins.
Clinical improvement ...	5	10	7
Subjective improvement ...	5	15	10
No improvement ...	1	1	1

Catarrhal Group.

Five out of six of the children showed clinical improvement. These were children prone to common colds and subsequent upper respiratory infections—the type of child who gets a cold in the head immediately followed by a 'cold on the chest.' One such child had a cold, which was quickly aborted. Another had an attack of bronchial catarrh lasting a week whereas previous attacks were said to have lasted four, and in addition the cough was far less troublesome. One child with a distressing nocturnal cough improved particularly well.

Debilitated Group.

Of the 16 children in this group 10 children were improved and 4 had slight improvement. Three cases convalescing after recent infectious diseases picked up well and quickly put on weight.

Anæmic Group.

Of the 11 children in this group 7 improved clinically and were eating and sleeping better at the end of the treatment."

Infectious Diseases.

There was no abnormal incidence of infectious disease in local schools during 1937. There were 14 certificates issued to school departments where the attendances fell below 60 per cent. In connection with diphtheria immunization in the schools, some 700 children were protected by inoculation during the year. Full particulars are given in the table below :—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION.

Under 5 Years.		5 Years.		6 Years.		7 Years.		8 Years.		Over 8 Years,		TOTALS.		
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	All
10	8	180	175	67	88	43	61	24	19	6	7	330	358	688

PERSONAL HISTORIES AS TO PREVIOUS INFECTIOUS ILLNESS AMONG SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The table herewith shows the personal history, in so far as concerns previous infectious illness, of those children who were subjected to routine medical inspection during the year.

Age Group		Number Examined	Mumps	Per Cent	Whooping Cough	Per Cent	Chicken Pox	Per Cent	Scarlet Fever	Per Cent	Diphtheria	Per Cent	Mumps	Per Cent	
Entrants.		Boys	1423	934	65·6	580	40·8	307	21·6	104	7·3	31	2·2	257	18·1
		Girls	1456	1004	68·9	735	50·5	385	23·0	117	8·0	29	1·9	276	18·9
2nd Age Group—		Boys	1251	1091	87·2	659	52·7	514	41·1	145	11·6	41	3·3	441	35·3
		Girls	1284	1098	85·5	779	60·7	545	42·4	132	10·3	40	3·1	422	32·9
3rd Age Group—		Boys	1525	1346	88·3	764	50·1	723	47·4	148	9·7	87	5·7	484	31·7
		Girls	1332	1235	92·7	733	55·0	678	50·9	153	11·5	93	6·9	476	35·7
Other Routine Inspections.		Boys	197	102	74·5	64	46·7	58	42·3	15	10·9	8	5·8	47	34·3
		Girls	154	118	76·6	61	39·6	51	33·1	20	12·9	6	3·9	36	23·4

VACCINATION.

The findings during 1937 as to the vaccinal condition of school children are set out below, viz. :—

BOYS				GIRLS			
Age Group	Number Examined	Number Vaccinated	Percentage Vaccinated	Number Examined	Number Vaccinated	Percentage Vaccinated	
Entrants ..	1423	204	14·3	1456	201	13·8	
2nd Age Group ..	1251	285	22·8	1284	254	19·7	
3rd Age Group ..	1525	410	26·9	1332	396	29·7	
Other Routine Inspections ..	137	30	21·9	154	41	26·6	
Totals ..	4336	929	21·4	4226	892	21·1	

Open-Air Education.

Corley Residential Open-Air School. Dr. J. Fielding reports as under on the work of the School during the year :—

“ During the year under review children have been retained at the open-air school for a longer period than usual. The results have justified this procedure, for without exception the children have done well.

The rule that a dental examination is necessary prior to admission has unfortunately made many defaulters and such children did not qualify for admission.

The pupils have enjoyed the open-air life to the full. They are benefited by the wholesome well-balanced dietary, and on discharge each is well equipped to take his or her place as a normal healthy child at home or in school.

The simple day-to-day rules of health and personal cleanliness are taught and practised, and in order that the children can do at home what they have been accustomed to do in the school, printed instructions are given to parents.

At the beginning of the year 59 children were in residence; 87 were admitted and 88 discharged during the year, leaving 58 children resident at the end of the year. The average gain in weight per child was 10 lb. 5 oz., which is 2 lb. more than the average of the previous year. The average gain in height was 1.9 ins. The average length of stay was 38 weeks.

Certain types of children do particularly well, namely those who are prone to upper respiratory and naso-pharyngeal infections. They are able to spend a winter at Corley without any intercurrent illness.

The debilitated without appetites soon lose their pallor and eat well, and those recovering from recent infectious disorders respond well in the first few weeks of their stay.

There were three cases of chickenpox and two cases of diphtheria at the School during the year, and three diphtheria carriers were ascertained and dealt with. In regard to diphtheria immunization, 39 resident children were protected by ‘one shot’ inoculation (A.P.T.).”

Centaur Road Roof School. Dr. M. J. Moir comments as under on the year’s work, viz. :—

“ In 1937 the Centaur Road Roof School was open from April 5th to October 15th. For the first time for many years all the children admitted in April were still in attendance in October.

The gains in weight and height are set out below":—

	BOYS.		GIRLS.	
	1937	1936	1937	1936
Average increase in weight (lbs.) ..	3·1	3·25	3·93	3·95
Average increase in height (inches)	1·02	1·0	1·25	1·36
Average age (years)	9·5	9·5	10·4	10·2

School Camps. During Whitsuntide, 1937, some 20 teachers and 112 children visited Dymchurch for a week, this being the tenth annual camp organized by the Coventry Elementary Schools Athletic Association. All children were medically examined by a member of the school medical staff before proceeding to camp, to ensure freedom from infection.

Physical Training.

The following is the Joint Annual Report for 1937 by the Organisers of Physical Training, Mr. P. R. Marsh and Miss E. K. Brown :—

"The year has been a notable one in the development of physical education. Pioneer work in this subject spreading over a number of years and through a number of agencies has resulted in the passing of the Physical Training and Recreation Act, which emphasises the value of physical fitness to the individual and also provides facilities for suitable physical activities for the people of the country. Good health can be made or marred in the schools and here the facilities provided for physical education, such as school halls, gymnasiums and playing fields, will be available out of school hours for young people and adults in the neighbourhood.

In Coventry, the Local Education Authority is providing indoor accommodation for physical education in the new schools, and large playing fields are being acquired for groups of schools. It is in the older schools that facilities are so inadequate and, as a rule, extended building is required to give the necessary indoor accommodation, whilst to obtain the fullest use of playing fields and swimming baths, transport is required.

The Local Education Authority is also providing facilities for 'Keep Fit' classes for young people and adults. The Government proposals, however, envisage extension of these facilities to meet the needs of the individual as regards physical recreation, such as camping, athletics, dancing, boxing, fencing, rowing, club life through community centres, swimming, etc. It is hoped that the individual citizen will accept expert opinion that a fit and healthy body makes for happiness and efficiency and that suitable physical activity is a method of attaining this standard.

The Schools.

There has been a marked improvement in the amount of time devoted to physical education. Infants' classes, as a rule, have two short lessons per day: the morning 'primary' lesson emphasises corrective exercises, whilst the afternoon 'secondary' lesson consists of games, dancing and rhythmic work and is of a recreative nature.

All the junior schools allocate at least a daily period to physical

education and in an increasing number of schools, especially where a gramophone is available, one of these periods is very profitably given to English Folk Dancing in the open air. In senior schools, four or five periods per week are given to physical education. The existing facilities are used to the fullest extent, and extension of time to five periods per week cannot in some cases be fitted into the available accommodation. It is essential that where the lesson is being devoted to gymnastic training with apparatus, it should be of sufficient duration to permit of a complete 'table' being taken. In some instances it has been found that in order to give a daily period, the time allowed for each lesson has been shorter than that required for the proper completion of a satisfactory training period.

During the year a steady increase in the supply of equipment has been made. Portable gymnastic apparatus in senior schools and gymnastic mats in junior schools are gradually being provided and the supply of small apparatus, balls, ropes, hoops, etc., is now more adequate.

The new junior schools at Wyken and Coundon are provided with a hall which is mainly used for physical education, and Hen Lane School has a fully equipped gymnasium with changing rooms and showers. Junior and infants' schools, with a few exceptions, are still behind the senior schools as regards 'changing' for the P.T. lesson. Practically all senior scholars wear plimsolls during physical training and usually the 'stripping out' is good; boys wear only knicks and shoes, and girls wear knicks, blouses and shoes. In some cases it is possible for the children to have a rub down after exercise, whilst at John Gulson and Hen Lane Schools, showers are very much enjoyed. A necessary item of the child's equipment is a pair of plimsolls, even in infants' and junior schools. Whilst the importance of allowing the muscles of the feet freedom to benefit from the exercises is generally recognised, and classes often turn out for physical training in plimsolls, further effort is required in this direction. The provision of plimsolls and material for tunics by the Committee to Wheatley Street Special School, combined with the opportunity of taking their P.T. lessons in the Infants' School hall, has given an excellent stimulus to the work. The response and alertness of the children have improved tremendously and there is no doubt as to their enjoyment of and benefit from the P.T. lesson.

The actual work in the elementary schools has shown further improvement and, on the whole, the lessons given are having a beneficial effect upon the children. It is very necessary to give attention to correct posture, not only during P.T. lessons but also during all school lessons. Much of the good acquired during P.T. lessons is undone by the assuming of bad postures at the desk.

More importance is being attached to the elements of hygiene as it affects the habits and lives of the children. The teaching is more practical and adapted to the varying experiences and daily needs of the pupils.

By arrangement with the County Education Authority, Mr. P. R. Marsh has been employed as Organiser of Physical Education and has devoted one day each week to the organisation and supervision of Physical Education in the boys' schools and boys' classes in mixed departments, whilst exercising a general interest in the work done by teachers in connection with the evening institutes and voluntary organisations.

Experience during the past few years has shown that the man organiser, with only one day per week for service with the Authority, has only been able to exercise a general influence over the work in the schools and has been unable to take an active interest in the work of the institutions controlled by the Higher Education Committee, or be of full value to the Authority as adviser in the several problems affecting physical educational development in the area as a whole. There is evidence that in these connections the organiser's interest and service should be extended if the progress and development of this work amongst boys and youths throughout the city is to progress satisfactorily.

Playing Fields.

There has been extension during the year of the playing field accommodation owned by the Committee. The purchase of twenty-five acres at Radford Aerodrome has been completed and sixteen acres at Jacker's Road have recently been acquired. Both fields are gradually being put into order and will in time form valuable playing space for hundreds of children on the north-east and north-west sides of Coventry. A playing field has been laid out for the use of Stoke Park Secondary School and plans for the pavilion are in hand. An extension of two and a half acres to Barr's Hill School playing field has helped to solve the problem of games in this school for the time being, but further facilities will be required as the school continues to increase its numbers. The use for organised games of thirteen public recreation grounds, continues and here the improved conditions, e.g. marking the pitches and cutting the grass, have made the games period of greater value to the children.

The acquisition of large playing fields (to serve a group of schools) which are more economical in upkeep than the greater number of small fields, will necessitate a certain amount of transport for the children and provision of shelter with changing rooms, showers and lavatory accommodation.

Wheatley Street Senior Girls' School continues to lack playing field facilities, and Broad Street Senior School has recently lost the building site which has served as a playing field in the past. Scholars from these two schools will require transport to either Radford or Jacker's Road field and it is hoped that this will be available in the near future. The building site at present used by Stoke Council School will shortly be built upon and a playing field in this district is urgently needed.

Swimming

Instruction in swimming in the elementary schools was given at the Central and Foleshill Baths. The class teachers gave the instruction, the land drill for breast stroke having been previously practised at school. In the senior schools the arrangements allow each child to have at least two seasons' instruction at the Baths, and in the junior schools, where suitable arrangements can be made, the older boys and girls enjoy one season of instruction. In a few schools, e.g., Allesley, Binley, Moseley Avenue, Stoke Council and Whoberley, where the necessary transport was not provided this year by the Local Education Authority, the number of children was limited to those who could afford to pay their own fares. The opening of the Foleshill Baths made it possible for larger numbers in that district to have instruction, but, on the other hand, the closing of Gosford Park Pool as part of the Committee's scheme, debarred many children in the Stoke district who had in previous years received the instruction.

The full season of twenty weeks was arranged at the Central Baths, 86 classes (boys 40, girls 46) visiting the baths each week. The total number of attendances was 47,827 (boys 22,180, girls 25,647).

The season at the new Foleshill Baths was of only seven weeks' duration; 37 classes (boys 19, girls 18) visited the baths each week, and the total number of attendances was 7,837 (boys 4,347, girls 3,490).

Proficiency certificates were again awarded by the Education Committee, the tests being conducted under the auspices of the Amateur Swimming Association. The number of certificates won was 1,796:—

Boys 3rd class	532	Girls 3rd class	620
2nd class	210	2nd class	320
1st class	49	1st class	65

It is satisfactory to note the increasing number of 3rd class certificates won. In twelve school departments, over fifty per cent. of the children from eleven to fourteen years of age are able to swim. In Binley School, eighty-nine per cent. of the girls can swim, in Stoke

Council Boys' School eighty per cent., and in Stoke Council Girls' School sixty-nine per cent.

At the end of the season several schools held their inter-house and school championship races. The winners of the shields at the inter-schools Gala were Stoke Council Boys and Wheatley Street Girls.

During the winter, a class for boys and one for girls were arranged and these classes were taken voluntarily by the teachers. In addition, individual schools arranged classes which continued the instruction of the summer season. There is great enthusiasm for swimming in the schools and the time available for them at the Central Baths is fully used.

Demonstrations and Sports.

On May 12th, about a thousand boys and girls gave a Physical Training Display at Highfield Road ground as part of the Coronation Festivities programme.

On June 17th, the inter-schools' sports were held under the auspices of the Coventry Elementary Schools' Athletic Association. On this occasion more than 2,500 children (infants, juniors and seniors) gave displays of singing, games, folk dancing, physical exercises and boxing.

On July 17th, about 700 children joined in a Play Leadership Demonstration at Spencer Park, held under the auspices of the Central Council of Recreative Physical Training. A large and interested body of spectators was impressed by the joy and freedom of the children as they joined, under leaders, in the various activities. Many children are unable to leave the city during school holidays and a safe playing space with plenty of apparatus and an enthusiastic leader such as was enjoyed by the children at the Demonstration would add considerably to the benefits of the holiday.

During the period December 13th—18th, thirteen displays of various branches of physical training were given by elementary school children during the afternoons at the Health Exhibition. At the opening meeting, men from the Technical College physical training classes gave a short display.

Various displays of Physical Training have been given during the year at parents' afternoons arranged by individual schools. All these contacts with the general public have been fully appreciated and well supported by the parents, who showed great interest in the work and made efforts suitably to clothe their children for the work in hand.

Junior Commercial School and Junior Art Department.

The value of the regular physical training arranged for these classes has been enhanced by the use of the new fully-equipped gymnasium, changing rooms and showers attached to the Technical College. Unfortunately this accommodation is already inadequate for the number of students who should be taking their physical training in the gymnasium and an additional gymnasium is required. Instruction in swimming is a feature of the training; the boys attend the Central Baths winter and summer, while the girls attend only during the summer. During the winter the girls take National Folk Dancing in place of swimming. Organised games are played on three public recreation grounds, Memorial Park, Spencer Park and Butts. It is a drawback to the social side of sports that the Technical College has no playing field of its own with pavilion, adequate changing rooms and showers.

National Fitness Campaign.

The Coventry Education Committee is alive to the need of providing facilities for children to continue and extend their physical training on leaving school. It is a mistake to drop all organised physical training on leaving school, for the maintenance of suppleness and agility acquired at school is important to health and all school leavers are urged to make contact with some form of regular physical activity.

1. Weekly Keep Fit classes are held at the Junior Evening Schools for boys and girls fourteen to sixteen years of age. Last year the centres were at Barkers' Butts, Centaur Road, Frederick Bird, John Gulson, Wheatley Street and Windmill Road Schools, and the numbers enrolled were small for the size of the City. Whilst it must be appreciated that increased demands made by industrial firms upon the hours of employment for many young people have prevented several from taking advantage of these classes, there are many young people who could and should join these groups and shoulder their personal responsibility in these matters.

2. Evening Keep Fit classes for adults and for juveniles from fourteen to eighteen years of age were held at various centres in the city, usually on the new housing estates. The total number who attended during the year was 1,325 (260 men, 1,065 women).

Assistance was given to the Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., Toch H Club and Allesley Women's Institute in running their Keep Fit classes, and this was very much appreciated.

The Rally of members of all these classes, held at Wheatley Street School in January was most successful.

3. The Technical College gymnasium was opened in September and evening classes in various branches of physical training for men and women were arranged.

The success of the classes shows that there is a willingness to 'keep fit' provided the exercises are taken under a well-qualified teacher and in a good gymnasium."

Teachers.

On the opening of the Technical College gymnasium, two well qualified men teachers were appointed and their time is fully occupied with the Junior Technical and Junior Commercial School classes and with evening adult classes. At the same time, four visiting (three-year trained) women teachers were engaged to take the women's evening classes. The girls in the Junior Commercial School and Junior Art Department were taken by three visiting teachers.

The two girls' Secondary Schools are staffed by three-year trained women gymnasts. The work is adequately undertaken by two gymnastic teachers at Barr's Hill School, but at Stoke Park School, further physical training teaching staff is required to give the girls a more satisfactory amount of time for gymnastics.

In the elementary schools several men teachers have continued to be active members of the Men Teachers' Physical Training Association and have met the Organiser of Physical Training for tuition at the monthly meetings. It is gratifying that some teachers (men and women) have taken advantage of the Technical College classes for receiving further training.

During last winter the women teachers attended a course of ten lessons in skipping and an indoor games' evening was held.

The Women Teachers' Swimming Club met regularly during the summer. Eight members took the Royal Life Saving Society's examination for the Bronze Medallion, two the examination for the Medallion Bar, and in addition several new members learned to swim.

The Women Teachers' Netball Club has recently been formed, and meets for practice on Saturday mornings; matches with teams in nearby towns are to be arranged.

The classes of the English Folk Dance and Song Society are well attended by the elementary school teachers. Four Coventry teachers attended the summer holiday physical training courses held at Scarborough and Loughborough.

With the anticipated provision of fully equipped gymnasias to senior schools, it is necessary to appreciate the importance of having members on the staff more fully trained in gymnastics than those

whose duties deal only with portable apparatus. To this end the Local Education Authority has made provision for the attendance of four selected teachers at the three months' training courses at Borough Road Training College for men and at Southlands Training College for women.

Medical Work.

Contact with the Medical Department has been maintained and the children reported to be in need of special remedial exercises are given simple exercises which they practise at home.

Coventry Elementary Schools' Athletic Association.

This voluntary association of teachers is to be congratulated on the valuable help rendered in the organisation of out of school sports and camp for the children. The shields held by the Association for competition annually were won by:—

Rugby Football	Broad Street S.B. School
Cricket	John Gulson School
Stool Ball	Barkers' Butts School
Boys' relay	Frederick Bird B. School
Girls' Relay	Broad Street School
Tug-of-War	Stoke Council S.B. School
Junior Championship	Stoke Council J.M. School
Boys' Championship	Broadway School
Girls' Championship	Broad Street School
Brandish Cup	Frederick Bird B. School
Boys' Swimming Shield	Stoke Council School
Girls' Swimming Shield	Wheatley Street School."

Provision of Meals.

The usual arrangements in connection with the provision of meals (including milk) have been continued during the year. At Centaur Road Roof School meals are provided for the children in attendance there. The Wheatley Street Special School continues to be the centre at which necessitous children from the various schools attend for mid-day meals. The arrangements and dietaries were deemed to be satisfactory during the year.

At Wheatley Street Special School, the total number of meals supplied was 5,003, of which 2,875 were free to necessitous children from various other elementary schools. At Centaur Road School, 3,969 meals were supplied; of these, 2,661 were provided on payment and 1,308 were supplied free to needy children attending the school.

Milk in Schools.

The arrangements for the routine supply of milk in schools have continued satisfactorily during the year. Pasteurized milk only is approved in this connection. At the year-end the figures relating to the scheme were:—

No. of school children in receipt of milk on payment under voluntary schemes ...	11,535
No. of school children in receipt of free milk ...	449

Co-operation of Parents, Teachers, School Attendance Officers and Voluntary Associations.

In connection with all routine medical inspections in schools during the year, the parents attended in about 60.0 per cent. of cases. The greatest percentage of parental attendances is in connection with the school entrant group and thereafter parental interest appears to wane. It is again emphasized that the presence of parents during the routine inspection of their children is of great value to the medical assessors, and it is hoped that more parents than hitherto will make the effort to attend.

It is again a pleasure to record the useful co-operation with the school medical department accorded by the teachers and school attendance officers. Acknowledgment is also made of the valuable help received from various voluntary bodies, notably the Coventry Crippled Children's Guild, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and the City Aid Society.

Parents' Attendances.

		Number Examined	Attendances by Parents	Percentage Attendance
Entrants:				
Boys		1423	1114	78·3
Girls		1456	1160	79·7
Totals	..	2879	2274	78·9
2nd Age Group:				
Boys		1251	822	65·7
Girls		1284	837	65·2
Totals	..	2535	1659	65·4
3rd Age Group:				
Boys		1525	476	31·2
Girls		1332	561	42·1
Totals	..	2857	1037	36·2
Other Routine Inspections:				
Boys		137	65	47·4
Girls		154	68	44·2
Totals	..	291	133	45·7

Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Children.

See Tables III., pages 189 and 190. The table herewith shows the numbers of local defective children under this heading who were on the registers of institutions, hospitals, certified schools, etc., at the year end, viz. :—

Institution		Total.
Totally Blind :—		
Royal School for the Blind, Birmingham	.. ..	14
East London Home for the Blind	.. ..	1
Deaf :—		
Royal School for the Deaf, Birmingham	.. ..	17
Feeble-minded :—		
Wheatley Street Special School, Coventry	.. ..	77
Littleton House, Residential School, Cambridge	.. ..	1
Besford Court R.C. Special School, Worcestershire	.. ..	1
The Beacon School, Lichfield	.. ..	2
Monyhull Colony, Birmingham	.. ..	1
Epileptic :—		
Soss Moss Special School, Cheshire	.. ..	1
The Colony, Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks.	.. ..	1
Maghull Home, Liverpool	.. ..	1
Lingfield Epileptic Colony	.. ..	2
Physically Defective :—		
Memorial Sanatorium, Hertford Hill, Warwick	.. ..	7
Kensington Hospital, Wales	.. ..	1
Maufield Orthopaedic Hospital, Northampton	.. ..	7
Paybody Home, Allesley, Coventry	.. ..	8
*Corley Open-Air School, Coventry	.. ..	58
*Roof Class, Centaur Road Girls' School, Coventry	.. ..	40
The Heritage Craft School, Chailey, Sussex	.. ..	2
Biddulph Grange Orthopaedic Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent	.. ..	1
Sea Bathing Hospital, Margate	.. ..	1
	Total	244

* Reports on the work of these Schools during 1937 are given on a previous page.

The following table shows the number of cases notified by the Local Education Authority (under Section 2 (2) of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, as amended by the Mental Deficiency Act, 1927) during 1937 :—

Diagnosis		Boys	Girls
1. (i) Children incapable of receiving benefit or further benefit from instruction in a Special School :			
(a) Idiots	.. ..	—	—
(b) Imbeciles	.. ..	3	1
(c) Others	.. ..	—	—
(ii) Children unable to be instructed in a Special School without detriment to the interests of other children :			
(a) Moral defectives	.. ..	—	—
(b) Others	.. ..	—	—
2. Feeble-minded children notified on leaving a Special School on or before attaining the age of 16	.. .. ..	11	8
3. Feeble-minded children notified under Article 3, i.e., "special circumstances" cases	..	—	—
4. Children who in addition to being mentally defective were blind or deaf	.. ..	—	—
	TOTALS	14	9

Wheatley Street Special School.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
(1) Number of Children who have left the School since 1910	220	181	401
(2) Number who :—			
(a) Have since died	21	14	35
(b) Have since married	10	17	27
(c) Are known to be incapable by reason of mental defect of undertaking employment	15	19	34
(d) Are not subject to routine visits	55	34	89
(e) Are attending Private Schools	2	—	2
(f) Are in Asylums	2	3	5
(g) Are in Institutions	29	22	51
(h) Have returned to Elementary Schools	7	11	18
(i) Are untraced	23	27	50
(j) Are unemployed	12	7	19
(3) Number employed in :—			
(a) Industrial or manual work	26	18	44
(b) Domestic work	—	7	7
(c) Selling newspapers	4	—	4
(d) Miscellaneous work	14	2	16

Wheatley Street Special School for Mentally Defective Children.

The following is a report by the Head Teacher, Miss P. E. Tuft, on the work during 1937 of the above :—

"At the commencement of the year there were 76 children on the register, 41 boys and 35 girls. During the year, 17 were admitted: 8 boys and 9 girls; and 16 left: 9 boys and 7 girls.

The children continue to use the large hall in Wheatley Street Infants' School for physical training, and have been more eager than ever for drill and games. They have been fortunate in being provided by the Education Committee for these lessons, with outfits to wear—the boys with shorts and singlets, the girls with green tunics and knickers, and all with suitable footgear. At first the children took a long time to change their attire, but each week an improvement was noticeable and now they dress and undress in half the original time.

The dressing and undressing have proved a useful training in self-help as the parents of the scholars, in many instances, dress them at home to save time and trouble.

The girls' tunics and knickers have been cut out and made in different stages in the various classes.

One re-arrangement in regard to the use of the school accommodation has been made during the year. The main hall is divided by a partition into two classrooms, and the kitchen and cookery-work have been moved from one of these rooms to the other in order to avoid the disturbance formerly caused by the through traffic to the yard.

The total number of dinners supplied at the school during the year was 5,003, and of this number 2,875 were provided free to our own children, 270 free to necessitous children from various other elementary schools and 1,858 were provided on payment."

	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.
No. of children on register in January,			
1937	41	35	76
Admissions during the year	8	9	17
No. discharged during the year	9	7	16
No. in attendance at year-end	40	37	77

Full-time Courses of Higher Education for Blind, Deaf, etc.

At the present time one boy and two girls are undergoing a full-time course of training at the Royal Institution for the Blind, Birmingham. One crippled boy is receiving education and treatment at the Heritage Crafts Schools, Chailey, Sussex.

Nursery Classes.

It is recognised by social administrators that a "gap" not uncommonly occurs in the system of medical supervision of children between the cessation of welfare-centre ministrations and school-commencing age. To fill this gap various measures have been suggested. Toddlers' clinics have their advocates, and a special clinic of this nature is to be inaugurated by the Public Health Committee during 1938. Then there are many who press for an extension of the National Health Insurance scheme to include the dependants of insured persons, thereby placing the intermediate groups of young children under the potential supervision of the family doctor. In any case the home advisory service conducted by the health visitors of the Public Health Department is of indispensable value in connection with the supervision of toddlers. But there will always be a useful place for the nursery school or nursery class where children before commencing school proper can enjoy regularly the benefits of simple education and guidance combined with medical supervision.

The nursery classes in St. Michael's School and Red Lane School, inaugurated respectively in 1935 and 1936, continue to give eminently useful service. In the plans for new local infants' schools, routine provision is being made for pre-school toddlers and it is anticipated that the nursery class system will be extended largely as soon as circumstances permit.

School Medical Work in Secondary Schools, etc.

Girls' Secondary Schools.

Dr. Margaret J. Moir submits the following report :—

"The number of girls presenting themselves for medical inspection in the two girls' secondary schools during the year was 834, an increase of 65 over the number in the previous year.

The follow-up work at both schools was done immediately following the resumption of work after the Christmas vacation and in each school the numbers acting on the advice given at the Systematic Examination showed an increase.

At Stoke Park School, out of 20 girls advised to see an oculist 4 had failed, and out of 43 recommended to see a dentist 17 had failed to act on the advice. One was waiting for an appointment.

At Barr's Hill School, out of 46 advised to see an oculist 9 had failed to attend to their eyesight, and out of 57 for whom dental treatment was recommended, 20 had done nothing and 10 were waiting for an appointment.

The systematic examination took place in November and the follow-up in January, so that there was ample time given to have defects treated. However, the number of girls acting on advice given showed a gratifying improvement in both schools, this being most marked in the school which had most need of improvement."

ASCERTAINED PHYSICAL DEFECTS.

Defect.		Barr's Hill.	Stoke Park.	Technical College.	Total.
External eye disease	...	2	2	—	4
Defective vision	...	45	17	16	78
Deafness	...	—	2	1	3
Ear Disease	...	—	7	—	7
Nose and Throat	...	2	8	1	11
Defective Teeth	...	92	50	17	159
Bad posture, flat feet, etc.	...	16	17	1	34
Other defects or diseases	...	5	—	2	7
Totals	...	162	103	38	303

Number of Pupils Examined: Age Distribution.

	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total
Barr's Hill ..	18	72	109	96	86	72	23	18	1	490
Stoke Park ..	15	82	81	58	47	36	14	10	1	344
Technical College	—	—	1	91	191	99	1	—	—	383
Totals ..	33	154	191	245	324	207	38	23	2	1217

Individual pupils suffering from defects (excluding dental) requiring treatment and notified to parent :—

Barr's Hill ..	64
Stoke Park ..	54
Technical College	22

Nutrition Survey.

	No. Ex- amined	(A)		(B)		(C)		(D)	
		Excellent		Normal		Slightly Sub-normal		Bad	
		No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent	No.	Per Cent
Barr's Hill	490	291	59.3	198	40.4	1	.2	—	—
Stoke Park	344	204	59.3	140	40.7	—	—	—	—
Technical College	383	124	32.4	216	56.4	43	11.2	—	—
Totals	1217	619	50.9	554	45.5	44	3.6	—	—

Parents' Payments.

For the financial year ended 31st March, 1937, the amounts collected from parents for the treatment of defects for which payment is required were as under:—

Vision, £44 9s. 6d.; teeth, £178 7s. 6d.; tonsils and adenoids, £65 3s. od.; ringworm, 6s. od.; contribution box, £2 os. 6d. The total is £290 6s. 6d., as compared with £305 3s. 7d. for the previous year.

Health Education.

The teaching of simple hygiene is indispensable in the school curriculum. The same can probably be said in regard to elementary biology.

Instruction in hygiene continues usefully in most of the local schools, and in addition to the ordinary class-lessons in this subject, instructional visits are arranged to the child welfare centres, city waterworks, sewage works, destructor, etc.

The Coventry issue of the *Better Health* journal continues to be circulated in the schools. In many of the latter the contents of the journal are used each month as a basis for a special lesson.

National Health Campaign.

In connection with the current National Health Campaign, the special propaganda material issued by the Central Council for Health Education has been widely employed in the schools.

Health Exhibition.

Also in connection with the Campaign, the Public Health Department organised a comprehensive Health Exhibition which was held in the Rover Showrooms during the period December 13th—18th, 1937. The morning sessions at the Exhibition were set apart for visits by groups of senior children from the various schools in the City. At the afternoon sessions selected groups of school children gave excellent displays of physical training. In the early evenings, the newest health films were shown and these were seen by large numbers of local school children.

Employment of Children and Young Persons.

Mr. H. Davoile, the Welfare Officer, supplies the following report dealing with the work during 1937 under this heading:—

"In accordance with the Employment of Children Bye-Laws, made in pursuance of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933, it is illegal to employ a child under the age of twelve years. Certain restrictions as to types and hours of employment are made with regard to children between the ages of twelve and fourteen. Certain occupations which are considered detrimental, either to the child's health or morals, are prohibited by the Act. No child may be employed without first registering the particulars of the occupation with the local education authority, and in the case of children over the age of thirteen who

may be permitted to be employed in certain occupations before school hours, it is a condition that a satisfactory medical report shall be obtained from the School Medical Officer. In this connexion 165 certificates were issued.

Details of Children Employed in Occupations Notifiable under the Bye-Laws.

Number of employed children registered at the end of 1936	494
Fresh registrations during the year 1937	... ... 818
	—
Number who left employment or attained the age limit (14 years)	1,312 736
Number employed on the 31st December, 1937	... ... 576

As in previous years, the majority of the children were engaged in the delivery of newspapers, milk, etc.

Street Trading.

Under the Bye-laws no boy under 16 years of age and no girl under 18 years of age is permitted to engage in street trading; a boy between the ages of 16 and 18 years must obtain a licence, issued by the local education authority for this purpose.

At the end of 1936 thirteen boys were registered for street trading in newspapers. During 1937 no licences were issued and ten licences surrendered. Three licences were current at the end of the year.

Licences to Children for Stage Performances.

The Education Act, 1921, which placed restrictions on the employment of children in public entertainments, has been amended by the Children and Young Persons Act, 1933.

Under the new Act no child is permitted to be engaged in stage performances unless furnished with a licence issued by the local education authority. Special Rules made by the Board of Education prescribe the conditions under which such licences may be issued.

The main conditions are:—No child under 12 may be licensed; A satisfactory medical report is necessary; Employment must terminate, unless there are special circumstances, before 10 p.m.; Licensed children performing away from their home towns must be under the care of a suitable person who is responsible for lodgings, school attendance, etc.

During the past twelve months, 66 Coventry children were granted licences, mainly for stage dancing and pantomimes, and 27 children, licensed by other local authorities, visited the City. Supervision as to the conditions of licence is exercised by the Education Committee's Welfare Officers.

Section 22 provides that, in the case of public entertainments organised for charitable purposes, a child may be engaged without a licence provided he, or she, has not performed on more than six occasions during the preceding six months."

Juvenile Employment.

In connection with Juvenile Employment, the school medical department has again provided health reports (relating to school-leavers) as necessary for the guidance of the Juvenile Employment Committee. It is vitally important that wherever possible young persons should enter occupations which are reasonably compatible with their physical and mental equipment. There is scope for further advances in this connection. There are

enormous potentialities for good in occupational selection based on considerations of physique and mental make-up.

It is a salutary reform that in the 1937 Factories Act it is required that the school medical records relating to school-leavers shall be made available to certifying factory surgeons (in future to be known as examining surgeons) on request. It is to be hoped that the factory surgeons will elect to turn this to the fullest account.

The following is a substantial extract from the Report of the Juvenile Employment Committee for the year ended July 31st, 1937 :—

"The engineering industry, of which practically all the branches are represented in and around the City, has experienced a year of unprecedented activity. The Motor Car, Bicycle, Machine Tool and General Engineering industries have been working to the fullest extent and a proportionate expansion has been witnessed in the Textile, Building and Distributive trades. Three aircraft factories have been established in the district under the Government's 'Shadow Factory' Scheme and it is expected that, when they are in productive operation, even wider opportunities in engineering will be available.

Whilst the main results of this intense industrial activity are obviously beneficial to the community as a whole, there exists at the same time an unwise tendency, on the part of many juveniles, frequently to change their occupations without real justification. The high wages which juveniles can command on certain process work cause many boys and girls to leave posts which are not immediately lucrative in favour of other jobs where the immediate high return may mean early unemployment and the loss of opportunity in learning a skilled trade. Discipline then becomes irksome and there is a concomitant reluctance on the part of many juveniles to avail themselves of the facilities offered by instructional courses and local voluntary organisations.

The great demand for young workers has meant, naturally, that there has been a negligible amount of unemployment, the majority of claims for benefit having been made by those, who, chiefly for internal causes, had been temporarily suspended from their work. Some difficulty has been experienced in filling vacancies which have occurred in shops, and, occasionally, even in offices, but in the main the supply of juvenile labour has, owing to the continued influx into Coventry of families from other parts of the country, generally approximated to the demand.

Vocational Guidance.

The work of Vocational Guidance has continued on the lines laid down in the Committee's Scheme and re-fashioned as a result of experience gained during recent years. At the School Leaving Conferences held each term the juveniles make preliminary contact with the Bureau officers. Information is given regarding local trades and industries, the opportunities in the various occupations are discussed, and suggestions are given to individual children as to the type of occupation most suitable. Much good work is done in this way, but the increased number and greater variety of vacancies available have tended to confuse the mind of the inexperienced leaver and he has, too frequently preferred to follow his own judgment rather than accept the advice of the experienced officer. In this connection the short-sighted policy of some parents has been a handicap for it has been found all too often, that children have had no option but to enter the trade selected for them by their parents, irrespective of any question of suitability and future prospects.

The active co-operation of Head Teachers and their staffs has once more proved invaluable in the completion of School Leaving Cards, the Bureau's chief guide as to an applicant's character and qualifica-

tions and in the successful arrangement of school conferences. At the 140 conferences held during the past year, 2,325 out of 2,515 school leavers were interviewed personally by the Employment Officers who stressed (*inter alia*) the need to study situations with reference to future prospects and the importance of extending an elementary education by attendance at Evening Classes. Alternative arrangements were made for 190 school leavers who were absent from school at the time of the conference.

Meetings were held at the two girls' secondary schools as in former years, their success being seen in the keen interest taken by the many parents present and in the increased number of registrations of secondary school girls at the Bureau. Arrangements were also made for dealing with secondary school boys who had not obtained situations by the time they had left school and excellent understanding exists between the Bureau and the Technical College and School of Art.

Co-operation with Employers.

Local employers continue to grow more and more aware of the services rendered by the Bureau, and the increased use made of its facilities is seen both in the greater number and in the greater variety of vacancies notified. The imperative demand for juvenile labour has been the obvious reason for some of the new employers approaching the Bureau, but it is satisfying to report that many of these have continued to notify vacancies to the Bureau as the result of the latter's successful replies to earlier requests. A pleasing feature in this connection has been the understanding shown by most firms requiring juveniles in regard to the difficulties experienced by the Bureau in submitting applicants immediately in response to notified vacancies. Two, at least, of the largest local engineering firms engage 90 per cent. of their juvenile labour through the Bureau, whilst the many expressions of thanks from other employers have acted as a distinct encouragement to the officers in a difficult task.

The best thanks of the Committee are due to the many employers who have so readily granted facilities for visiting their works to the Employment Officers, for a first-hand knowledge of general occupations and working conditions is invaluable in the work of placing boys and girls in employment.

Placing Work.

Any proof needed as to the efficacy of the part played by the Bureau in the distribution of the available supply of juvenile labour is provided by the fact that the number of placings during the year was 2,888, a total which exceeded the previous year's total—itself a record—by 226. Vacancies were notified by 517 different employers, as compared with 493 during the previous twelve months, and, as Appendix II. shows, a very wide range of trades and industries was covered. 1,133 young people were placed in their first situations after leaving school; this figure represents some 45 per cent. of the total leavers, and is encouragingly high in view of the ease with which situations can be obtained.

There has been a widespread reluctance on the part of boys to enter shop work, and, surprisingly enough, even office vacancies have at times been filled only with difficulty. Domestic service has once again proved the least attractive avenue of employment to local girls, as, notwithstanding the advantageous conditions offered by many mistresses, it compares unfavourably in the minds of the girls with the employment offered in most factories.

A number of cases have been brought to the notice of the Bureau officers of juveniles whose physical or mental defects have made it difficult for them to obtain suitable employment. Thanks to the sympathetic consideration given to such cases by several firms, it has been found possible to secure satisfactory situations for a number of these unfortunate children. Typical cases are those of two boys, one of whom had lost his left arm, whilst the other suffered from spinal

trouble. They were placed respectively in a motor car firm's office and in a wholesale fruit merchant's office, and have since been reported at the Bureau as making excellent progress.

Apprentices.

The existence in Coventry of a Scheme for the Training of Apprentices is one of the most excellent features of the City's industrial progress. Participation in the Scheme ensures a skilled trade for apprentices, of whom many avail themselves of the privilege widely accorded by local employers, of attending instruction classes at the Technical College on two half-days a week during working hours. Of the 1,026 part-time day students who attend the Technical College, 721 are engineering apprentices.

The advantages of apprenticeship are continually being urged by the Employment Officers at school conferences and elsewhere, and it is with pleasure that your Committee can report that, during the past year, no fewer than 508 indentures of apprenticeship were enrolled with the Town Clerk. This shows an increase of 172 over the corresponding total for last year.

The actual apprenticeship is preceded by a probationary period varying from six months to two years, and many of the boys placed in industry by the Bureau have the opportunity of proving their worth during that period and becoming indentured apprentices.

Industrial Transfers.

During the early months of 1937 it was decided, after giving consideration to the number of vacancies notified and to the estimated number of school leavers for the year, to co-operate with the Ministry of Labour in the transference of juveniles from Special Areas. Accordingly 42 boys and 3 girls were brought into Coventry under the Ministry's Scheme. Situations were found for them, chiefly in engineering and bicycle manufacture, while suitable lodging accommodation was arranged near the works. On the 31st July, 26 boys and one girl were still under the Authority's supervision, the others either having returned home (9) or having become self-supporting on attaining the age of eighteen years, or joining their parents who have come to live in Coventry (9).

Steps were taken to link up young people with local voluntary organisations and the scheme has generally operated successfully. The natural re-action of these juveniles to the comparatively prosperous conditions of the City has rendered necessary a sustained scheme of After-Care, although the wide dissemination throughout the City of those requiring supervision has caused difficulties in this connection.

In addition to the above a number of applications for employment were received through the Ministry in respect of juveniles who have relatives or friends in Coventry with whom they could reside, and in most cases satisfactory arrangements were made. In view of the continued influx of adult workers and their families into Coventry, the Committee, in reviewing the position, came to the conclusion that this method is the more satisfactory. While no official statistics are readily available to show the number of families arriving in the City, the report issued by the Education Committee shows that the number of school children admitted during the past twelve months from other districts, exceeds the number of children leaving Coventry by more than 1,100.

Industrial Supervision.

The arrangement instituted last year for the supervision of those juveniles placed in situations by the Bureau has been continued throughout the period under review. Forty-three meetings were held on Friday evenings and Committee members who were present interviewed personally 604 boys and girls who had responded to the invitation to attend the Bureau. Of the remaining 806 juveniles who were invited, 81 sent in written replies, whilst 725 failed to respond.

The majority of boys and girls interviewed appeared to be satisfied with their employment. Where necessary, advice and help were given to enable juveniles whose work was not congenial or which lacked opportunities for progress to enter alternative situations.

The great advantage to be derived from attending courses of further education has been continually stressed, and it is significant to note that classes at the Technical College have recently grown so rapidly that the question of adding extensions to the existing building has already been raised.

There are several different types of voluntary organisations in the City, all of which have somewhat similar objects, and the benefits which membership brings is pointed out in a circular letter which is sent to every school leaver at the end of each school term.

A feature of the weekly meetings has been the cordial relationship between the Bureau Officers and the parents and young people who have responded to the invitations. It is felt that the valuable assistance rendered by members of the Juvenile Employment Sub-Committee has been appreciated greatly.

Unemployment Insurance.

The volume of recorded juvenile unemployment in Coventry during the past year has once again shown a substantial decrease as compared with that of the previous twelve months. The total amount paid out on claims for benefit was £264 as against £367 the previous year.

The number of juvenile Unemployment Books exchanged locally in July was 15,363, an increase of 1,071 on the previous year's total.

National Health Insurance.

The work of franking Health Insurance Cards of unemployed juveniles over sixteen years of age, both claimants and non-claimants, has proceeded smoothly. Under the new National Health Bill which comes into operation in 1938, juveniles under age 16 will be brought into the Health Insurance Scheme which provides systematic medical attention and treatment during illness."

Miscellaneous.

During the year, 218 candidates for "special places" were medically examined. Also 75 children were examined in connection with mental deficiency. In relation to juvenile employment, 165 medical certificates were issued and 39 children were medically approved to take part in stage performances.

The various statistical tables, as required annually by the Board of Education, appear in the following pages.

APPENDIX.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION.

**Table I.—Return of Medical Inspections Year ended
31st December, 1937.**

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups.

Entrants	2879
Second Age Group	2535
Third Age Group	2857
	—
TOTAL ..	8271
	—
Number of other Routine Inspections ..	291
	—
GRAND TOTAL ..	8562
	—

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	4625
Number of Re-inspections	5033
	—
TOTAL ..	9658
	—

C.—CHILDREN FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

GROUP	For Defective Vision (excluding squint)	For all other conditions recorded in Table II.A	TOTAL
Entrants	—	461	461
Second Age Group	127	308	425
Third Age Group	191	251	303
Total (Prescribed Groups) ..	318	1020	1189
Other Routine Inspections ..	24	29	52
GRAND TOTAL ..	342	1049	1241

Table II.

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended
31st December, 1937.

DEFECT OR DISEASE.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	No. of Defects.		Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.
	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.		
Skin	Ringworm—Scalp ..	..	..	5
	Body ..	..	..	26
	Scabies ..	14	..	161
	Impetigo ..	14	..	237
	Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)	25	8	5
	TOTAL ..	53	8	434
				2
Eye	Blepharitis ..	22	..	25
	Conjunctivitis ..	13	..	4
	Keratitis ..	..	..	..
	Corneal Opacities ..	1	..	2
	Other Conditions (excluding Defective Vision & Squint)	..	..	..
	TOTAL ..	36	..	31
				..
Ear	Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	346	52	506
	Squint ..	55	22	17
	Defective Hearing ..	5	20	10
	Otitis Media ..	23	..	17
	Other Ear Diseases ..	110	..	37
	Chronic Tonsillitis only ..	335	349	16
	Adenoids only ..	79	105	23
Nose and Throat	Chronic Tonsillitis & Adenoids	159	140	176
	Other Conditions ..	24	10	13
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous) ..	6	28	5	3
Defective Speech ..	..	4	12	3
Heart and Circulation	Heart Disease—			
	Organic ..	..	29	27
	Functional ..	..	23	3
	Anæmia ..	9	9	9
Lungs	Bronchitis ..	27	36	28
	Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases ..	..	..	7
	Pulmonary—			
	Definite ..	..	..	1
	Suspected ..	..	..	1
Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary—			
	Glands ..	..	..	8
	Spine ..	..	..	..
	Hip ..	..	..	..
	Bones and Joints ..	..	..	2
	Skin ..	..	..	2
	Other Forms ..	..	..	3
	TOTAL ..	..	..	15
Nervous System	Epilepsy ..	..	5	3
	Chorea ..	..	..	7
	Other Conditions ..	..	..	21
Deformities	Rickets ..	1	1	33
	Spinal Curvature ..	6	2	10
	Other Forms ..	141	19	123
Other Defects and Diseases ..	108	207	466	115
	Total ..	1527	1077	2062
				1276

B.—Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups.

Age-groups	Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B. (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants ..	2879	720	25·0	1870	64·9	279	9·7	10	·3
Second Age-group	2535	691	27·3	1611	63·6	229	9·0	4	·1
Third Age-group ..	2857	924	32·3	1696	59·4	232	8·1	5	·2
Other Routine Inspections	291	88	30·2	179	61·6	24	8·2	..	..
Total	8562	2423	28·3	5356	62·5	764	8·9	19	·2

Table III.—Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

BLIND CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind	..	..	..	15
At Public Elementary Schools ..	..	..	..	—
At other Institutions ..	..	..	..	—
At no School or Institution ..	..	..	..	—
			Total	15

PARTIALLY SIGHTED CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind	..	..	..	—
At Certified Schools for the Partially Blind	..	..	..	—
At Public Elementary Schools ..	..	..	..	11
At other Institutions ..	..	..	..	—
At no School or Institution ..	..	..	..	—
			Total	11

DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf	..	..	..	17
At Public Elementary Schools ..	..	..	..	—
At other Institutions ..	..	..	..	—
At no School or Institution ..	..	..	..	1
			Total	18

PARTIALLY DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf	..	..	..	—
At Certified Schools for the Partially Deaf	..	..	..	—
At Public Elementary Schools ..	..	..	..	1
At other Institutions ..	..	..	..	—
At no School or Institution ..	..	..	..	2
			Total	3

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

Feeble-minded Children.

At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ..	..	82
At Public Elementary Schools ..	..	13
At other Institutions ..	..	2
At no School or Institution ..	..	3
	Total	100

EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

Children suffering from severe Epilepsy.

At Certified Special Schools ..	..	..	..	5
At Public Elementary Schools ..	..	..	..	8
At other Institutions ..	..	..	..	..
At no School or Institution ..	..	..	..	3
	Total	11		

PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

A. Tuberculous Children.*1. Children suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

At Certified Special Schools ..	..	..	..	7
At Public Elementary Schools ..	..	..	..	—
At other Institutions ..	..	..	..	—
At no School or Institution ..	..	..	..	16
	Total	23		

2. Children suffering from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

At Certified Special Schools ..	..	..	..	10
At Public Elementary Schools ..	..	..	..	26
At Other Institutions ..	..	..	..	—
At no School or Institution ..	..	..	..	8
	Total	44		

B. Delicate Children.

At Certified Special Schools ..	..	..	..	59
At Public Elementary Schools ..	..	..	..	132
At Other Institutions ..	..	..	..	..
At no School or Institution ..	..	..	..	6
	Total	197		

C. Crippled Children.

At Certified Special Schools ..	..	..	..	9
At Public Elementary Schools ..	..	..	..	—
At Other Institutions ..	..	..	..	1
At no School or Institution ..	..	..	..	6
	Total	16		

D. Children with Heart Disease.

At Certified Special Schools ..	..	..	..	—
At Public Elementary Schools ..	..	..	..	—
At Other Institutions ..	..	..	..	—
At no School or Institution ..	..	..	..	3
	Total	3		

CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE DEFECTS.

Combination of Defect.	At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
M.D. and Cripple	1	..	..	2	3
M.D. and Epileptic .. ..	..	..	1	..	1
M.D. and Blind .. ..	..	..	2	..	2
M.D. and Deaf	1	..	..	..	1
Epileptic and Cripple	1	..	..	..	1

**Table IV.—Return of Defects Treated during the Year ended
31st December, 1937.**

TREATMENT TABLE.

GROUP I.—MINOR AILMENTS.

Disease or Defect.	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise.	Total.
Skin :—			
Ringworm—Scalp—			
X-Ray Treatment ..	5	..	5
Other ..	..	2	2
Ringworm Body ..	26	..	26
Scabies ..	201	..	201
Impetigo ..	371	..	371
Other Skin Disease ..	66	..	66
Minor Eye Defects ..	181	..	181
Minor Ear Defects ..	281	..	281
Miscellaneous ..	1199	..	1199
Totals ..	2320	2	2332

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

				Number of Defects dealt with.		
				Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
Errors of Refraction (including Squint)	..	..	..	666	..	666
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes	..	..	..	22	..	22
Total	..			688	..	688

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed:—

- (a) Under the Authority's Scheme .. 666
- (b) Otherwise —

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles:—

- (a) Under the Authority's Scheme .. 634
- (b) Otherwise —

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS							
Received operative Treatment							
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital			By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.	Total.		Received other forms of Treatment.	Total number Treated.
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
6	7	253	..	322	6	7	253
				322	..	..	588
				266			

(i) Tonsils only. (ii) Adenoids only. (iii) Tonsils and Adenoids. (iv) Other defects of the nose and throat.

GROUP IV.—ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

Number of Children treated:—

1. Under the Authority's scheme:				
Residential treatment with education				23
Residential treatment without education				—
Non-residential treatment at an orthopædic clinic				363
2. Otherwise				—
				Total .. 386

Table V.—Dental Inspection and Treatment.

(1)	Number of Children who were :—	
(a)	Inspected by the Dentist:	
	Routine Age Groups.	
	Aged 6	710
	,, 7	840
	,, 8	709
	,, 9	693
	,, 10	—
		— 2952
(b)	Specials .. .	1112
(c)	Total (Routine and Specials) .. .	4064
(2)	Number found to require treatment	3678
(3)	Number actually treated	4117
(4)	Attendances made by children for treatment	6488
(5)	Half-days devoted to Inspection	35
	,, Treatment	832
		— 867
(6)	Fillings, Permanent Teeth	3188
	,, Temporary Teeth	98
		— 3286
(7)	Extractions, Permanent Teeth	1297
	,, Temporary Teeth	5499
		— 6796
(8)	Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions	Nil
(9)	Other operations, Permanent Teeth	131
	,, Temporary Teeth	5
		— 136

Table VI.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

(i.)	Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	10
(ii.)	Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	59951
(iii.)	Number of individual children found unclean	2022
(iv.)	Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	73
v.)	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—	
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	Nil
	(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	Nil

HIGHER EDUCATION.

**Table I.—Return of Medical Inspections, Year ended
31st December, 1937.**

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups.

ENTRANTS (aged 10-12 years) .. ..	..	378
2ND AGE GROUP (aged 13-15 years) .. ..	..	776
3RD AGE GROUP (aged 16-18 years) .. ..	..	63
	TOTAL ..	1217
Number of other Routine Inspections .. ..	..	Nil

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections .. ..	..	101
Number of Re-inspections .. ..	..	40
	TOTAL ..	141

C.—CHILDREN FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

GROUP (1)	For Defective Vision (excluding squint) (2)	For all other conditions recorded in Table II. A (3)	TOTAL
Entrants	16	36	50
Second Age Group	51	28	77
Third Age Group	10	2	12
Total (Prescribed Groups) ..	77	66	139
Other Routine Inspections ..	—	—	—
GRAND TOTAL ..	77	66	139

Table II.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended
31st December, 1937.

DEFECT OR DISEASE	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.
Skin	Ringworm— Scalp ..	..	..	..
	Body ..	..	..	..
	Scabies ..	..	..	..
	Impetigo ..	..	..	..
	Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous) ..	6	..	..
	TOTAL ..	6	..	..
Eye	Blepharitis ..	2	..	..
	Conjunctivitis ..	2	..	..
	Keratitis ..	..	..	..
	Corneal Opacities ..	..	..	..
	Other Conditions (excluding Defective Vision & Squint) ..	..	..	..
	TOTAL ..	4	..	..
Ear	Defective Vision (excluding Squint) ..	78	27	13
	Squint ..	1	..	..
	Defective Hearing ..	3	1	..
	Otitis Media ..	..	..	..
	Other Ear Diseases ..	7	..	..
	Chronic Tonsillitis only ..	9	15	..
Nose and Throat	Adenoids only ..	1	3	..
	Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids ..	1	..	..
	Other Conditions ..	..	..	..
	Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous) ..	..	..	..
	Defective Speech ..	..	..	..
	Heart Disease—	..	..	..
Circulation	Organic ..	..	1	..
	Functional ..	..	1	..
	Anæmia ..	..	..	..
	Bronchitis ..	..	..	..
	Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases ..	..	..	..
	Pulmonary—	..	..	..
Tuberculosis	Definite ..	..	..	..
	Suspected ..	..	..	..
	Non-Pulmonary—	..	..	..
	Glands ..	..	..	..
	Bones and Joints ..	..	..	..
	Skin ..	..	..	..
Nervous System	Other Forms ..	..	..	..
	TOTAL ..	..	..	..
Deformities	Epilepsy ..	..	..	..
	Chorea ..	..	..	..
	Other Conditions ..	..	..	..
Other Defects and Diseases	Rickets ..	..	..	..
	Spinal Curvature ..	..	..	..
	Other Forms ..	34	10	..
TOTAL ..		7	18	37
TOTAL ..		151	76	50

B.—Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups.

AGE-GROUPS.	Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants ..	378	206	54.5	171	45.2	1	3	..	..
Second Age-group ..	776	369	47.6	364	46.9	43	5.5	..	..
Third Age-group ..	63	44	69.8	19	30.2	..	..	..	..
Other Routine Inspections ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	1217	619	50.9	554	45.5	44	3.6	..	..

Table III.—Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area

BLIND CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind ..	..	..	3
At Secondary Schools ..	..	..	—
At other Institutions ..	..	..	—
At no School or Institution ..	..	..	—
TOTAL ..	..	..	3

EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools ..	..	..	1
At Secondary Schools ..	..	..	—
At other Institutions ..	..	..	—
At no School or Institution ..	..	..	—
TOTAL ..	..	..	1

Physically Defective Children.

C.—CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools ..	..	..	1
At Secondary Schools ..	..	..	—
At other Institutions ..	..	..	—
At no School or Institution ..	..	..	—
TOTAL ..	..	..	1

**Table IV.—Return of Defects treated during the Year ended
31st December, 1937.**

GROUP I.—MINOR AILMENTS.

NIL.

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

	Number of Defects dealt with.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
Errors of Refraction (including Squint)	56	..	56
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes	2	..	2
Totals ..	58	..	58

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :—

- (a) Under the Authority's Scheme 56
- (b) Otherwise —

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles :—

- (a) Under the Authority's Scheme 56
- (b) Otherwise —

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Received Operative Treatment under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital (Tonsils only)	..	4
Ditto Ditto (Tonsils and adenoids)	..	—
Total	..	4

GROUP IV.—ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

Table V.—Dental Inspection and Treatment.

Table VI.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.

- (i.) Average number of visits per School made during the year by the School Nurses Nil.

(ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses Nil.

(iii.) Number of individual children found unclean 15

(iv.) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921 Nil.

(v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:—
 (a) Under the Education Act, 1921 .. Nil.
 (b) Under School Attendance Byelaws .. Nil.

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